FRIDAY APRIL 4 1997



Results and entry details on

PAGE 43



FROM BIG TOP TO BIG TIME

Valerie Grove meets Rupert Graves PAGE 19

## Labour fails to give parliamentary time for vote on hunting



'Hi, we're canvassing on behalf of the Conservative Party"

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE Labour Party has backed away from its long-standing com-mitment to give parliamentary time to legislation banning fox-hunting. A compromise reached by party leaders means one of the country-

side's oldest pursuits will be able to continue for some time to come. And the early years of a Blair gov-ernment would not get bogged down with a sensitive Bill that could divide the party and take up time needed for other measures.

The manifesto published yester-

day promises a free vote but, in a deliberate shift pushed through by senior Shadow Cabinet members.

gives no promise on finding parlia-mentary time. The shift will infuri-ate animal rights activists but please rural communities.

Last night the League Against Cruel Sports warned Labour that, with public feelings against animal cruelty running high, it would be a "bad political move" if the party backed away from its commitment to ban hunting with hounds. Prohunting spokesmen welcomed the absence of a specific commitment to make parliamentary time available for legislation, but said the threat to their sport remained.

Past policy documents have committed Labour both to allowing a free vote on hunting with hounds and to giving time for a private member's Bill to push it through. Controversial backbench Bills cannot get through Parliament without the support of the Government of the day. Only limited time is allotted to them and they are always vulnerable to delaying tactics. Jack Straw, the Shadow Home

Secretary, Lord Irvine of Lairg, Shadow Lord Chancellor, and Robin Cook, Shadow Foreign Secretary and Labour's policy chief, are understood to be the key figures behind the manifesto wording.

Lord Irvine, a close friend of Tony Blair, was charged by the Labour leader with keeping out commit-ments that could take up too much of a Labour Government's time in its busy early years. Senior Shadow Cabinet figures said that they had no desire to embroil Labour in a classic town-versus-country argument. Other sources said there were no votes to be gained in banning hunting, but that rural votes could be lost if one were imposed.

The wording went through last week's Shadow Cabinet and national executive manifesto meeting, which agreed the manifesto, without comment. "No one barted an evelid," an informed source said.

Kevin Saunders, spokesman for the League Against Cruel Sports. said: "If the Labour Party is going soft on this issue the public will be extremely disappointed. It would be a very bad political move if the Labour Party were to start backing already made."

Peter Stevenson, political and legal director of Compassion in World Farming, said: "I should love to see Labour bring in a ban on hunting with a government Bill and not leave it to a free vote. I am immensely disappointed at the

But Richard Moore, election team leader of the International Fund for Animal Welfare, said: "We didn't expect a government-sponsored Bill. It's been policy to allow a free vote. We will win that. We see no weakening in Labour's position or

vagueness in the manifesto."

Janet George, of the British Field Sports Society, said: "The Labour

Road rage

'is middle

class crime'

By JEREMY LAURANCE

crime, a professor of psycholo-

misdemeanours were more

likely to involve the middle classes than any other violent Research presented to the

Edinburgh International Sci-

ence Festival examined re-

ports of 100 incidents of road

rage from 1993, and found

they were unlike common

crimes: of violence. Perpetra-tors and victims tended to be

older than in other crimes and

to span the social classes and

Describing himself as ini-

tially a sceptic about road rage, Professor Groeger said

the differences had convinced

him it was a unique phenome-

non. The first reports of inci-

dents appeared in 1993 and

The key question is wheth-er the rage is confined to the

road or whether the people

involved are just genuinely

angry. I am coming to the

view that this is something

different from other forms of

riolence." Road rage incidents

Continued on page 2, col 6

had grown rapidly.

off from a commitment they have . Party would have been crazy to put a commitment on paper to provide time for legislation given the competition to find time for other more important business if they get elected. But they are still planning to hold a free vote on whether hunting should be banned, and there could still be time for a private member's Bill to get through both houses of Parliament."

John Fretwell, chairman of the recently launched Union of Country Sports Workers, said: "The commitment to hold a free vote is still there. and that can only increase hostility towards country sports and jeopardise the jobs of thousands of people who depend on them for their

# Trust me, says Blair as he plays it safe

TONY BLAIR set his sights on two terms of office yesterday as he offered Britain a fresh start and invited the country to judge his performance in gov-

ernment severely. Labour would "blow its place in history" if it betrayed the trust of the British people the general election and afterwards, he said.

Unveiling a deliberately cautious manifesto, which made a virtue of not promising the earth". Mr Blair suggested that he was pinning his hopes on a lengthy period

in Downing Street.
Trust is the single most important commodity in this election. I can almost reach out and feel the sentiment among the public," he said. They want a new beginning in politics. They want to know they can trust the person who offers them that. We are saying These are substantial commitments. They may not revolutionise your life overnight but they can make Britain better. Hold us to them. If we deliver them we can come back to the election after next and say trust us again because we kept our

. Mr Blair launched his document as two polls showed that his party was maintaining its huge lead. A Harris poll for The Independent gives Labour 52 per cent, the Tories 28 and the Liberal Democrats 14. A Gallup survey for The Daily Telegraph also gives Labour 52 per cent, but has the Tories on 31 and the Liberal Demo-

crats on 11. But the Labour leader continued to insist that he was not complacent, although he accepted that this was a makeor-break election for his party. This is a historic opportunity for the Labour Party to become a modern party of progress and justice. If we blow this apportunity, we blow our place in history."

The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk



ELECTION 97

6 Under the banner of 'honesty in politics,' Blair is able to make a virtue of paucity ? Matthew Parris, page 7

6 The problem is not ends. It is means. Labour's figures do not add up 9 Peter Riddell, page 10

Election reports... Matthew Parris... Tessa Blackstone. Leading article..

#### Labour Manifesto in full, Section Two

But Mr Blair's pledge to stick to the Government's spending figures and not raise personal taxes was soon un-dermined when Gordon Brown admitted there was a £1.5 billion hole in the expenditure plans. The Shadow Chancellor even said that Labour might have to go ahead with the £500 million privatisation of the National Air Traffic System to help to fill the gap. His admission delighted the Tories, who claimed to have scored a direct hit with their claims that Labour had a

black hole in its finances. The Labour manifesto promised that there would be no increases in the basic or top rate of tax, and long-term aim remained a 10p starting rate.

No rise in basic or top rate

of income tax. Long term aim

☐ Windfall tax on privatised

utilities, to put 250,000 under-

☐ National minimum wage.

Reduction in class sizes for

five to seven-year-olds. Phas-

ing out of Assisted Places

Scheme. "Hit squads" to tar-

get failing education authori-

ties. No return to 11-plus, but

Cut in VAT on fuel to 5 per

End to NHS internal

market. £100 million to treat

abolition of grammar

of 10p starting rate.

level to be decided.

25s into work.

schools.

MANIFESTO: THE MAIN POINTS

It also promised a national minimum wage, referendums on a Scottish parliament and a Welsh assembly, a windfall tax on privatised utilities to get 250,00 youngsters into work, extra spending on education to cut class sizes, year-on-year increases in health spending. a referendum on single cur-rency in the event of a Labour overnment deciding to go in, a reduction in VAT on fuel to 5 per cent, abolition of the voting rights of hereditary peers, and faster justice for

young offenders. John Major described the manifesto as "more a con-trick than a contract, while Michael Heseltine said Labour's document was a contract with the trade unions. Mr Major, campaigning in Scotland, also attacked Mr Blair's devolution plans, claiming that "in a handful of sentences he promises to start the break up of the United Kingdom".

The Liberal Democrats described the manifesto as the most complacent from any non-Conservative party in re-cent times and said: On issue after issue Labour offer nothing to solve the grave problems which we face."

Launching the document earlier, Mr Blair had said: This election is about trust. The relationship between goverrument and people was shattered when the Conservatives won the 1992 general election on a series of promises, particularly on tax, and then systematically broke them. For that reason, we make a virtue of the fact that our manifesto does not promise the earth.

"It does not say it can do everything. There are no magic wands or instant solutions. I defy anyone to say that this is anything other than a radical programme, but it is in the radical centre - modern. forward-looking and unterly in tune with the times and instincts of today's Britain."

more patients. Annual above-

inflation increase in

Trade Union recognition

where majority of "relevant"

Referendums on Scottish

Parliament and Welsh

Referendum on single

currency.

Abolition of voting rights

☐ A Royal Commission to

report on long-term care of

☐ Speeding up sentencing for

Free vote on a total ban on

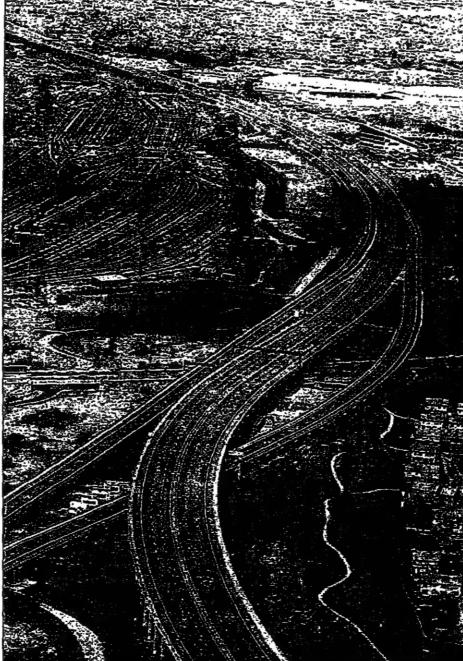
persistent young offenders.

workforce support it.

for hereditary peers.

Assembly

the elderly



This was the normally crowded junction of the M5 and M6 after the bomb alert

## Bomb chaos on motorways

By Stewart Tendler, Danny McGrory and Kevin Eason

the top of a boft support

TWO bombs were found under the Mb near Birming-ham yesterday as the IRA brought chaos to the busiest section of road in Europe. The bombs were discovered

near junction nine after a coded warning that devices had been left between Perry Barr and Walsall. One detonator had been fired, but the bomb had failed to explode. The second was disarmed.

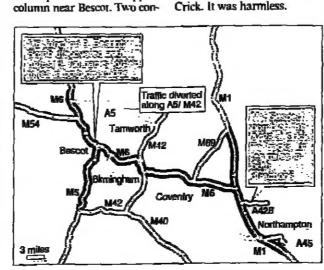
. Thirty miles of the MI and the M6 and a stretch of the M5 were closed, leaving nearly 200,000 cars and 60,000 lorries stranded for hours. Hundreds more people were moved out of their homes, and motoring organisations estimated that the closures cost £20 million.

Police believe that the chaos was part of a new IRA strategy to disrupt transport after last week's attack on a Manchester rail junction.

The Mo bombs were found after an Irish caller told two Walsall hotels that a bomb

would explode under the motrolled explosions destroyed torway by about 9am. As police scoured the elevated the device. The second bomb was found 100 yards away. In Northamptonshire, the section of the motorway, two M1 was closed between juncsmall explosions were heard. but no one could trace the tions 16 and 19 for eight hours after a warning of a device under a road bridge. Police source. Then yesterday afternoon West Midlands Police discovered a bomb attached to found a metal box near the

Eurotunnel freight terminal at



SPORT ..... 41-46, 48 VALERIE GROVE .....19 EDUCATION ..... 39-40

### IN BRIEF

#### Kohl is to run for fifth term

Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, has announced that he intends to stand for re-ROAD rage is a middle class election after months of speculation that he was suffering from failing health and losing control over the spiralling economic problems that have dogged him for the past gy said last night. Professor John Groeger, of the University of Surrey, said incidents in which drivers attacked each other over minor traffic

He made the announcement during an interview to mark his sixty-seventh birth-day. The election will be held at the end of next yearPage 17

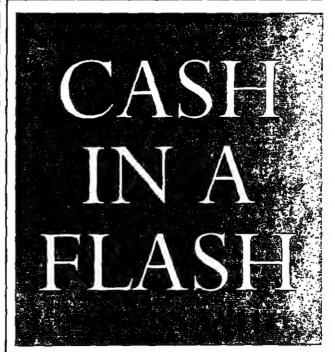
#### **BCCI** fraud case man found guilty

A shipping tycoon who de-frauded the Bank of Credit and Commerce International of £750 million was yesterday convicted of fraud and false accounting, in the biggest case of its kind to come before a British court.

Abbas Gokal, 61, former chairman of the Gulf Group. was convicted at the Old Bailey at the conclusion of a seven-month trial, which has cost the taxpayer £10

#### Teachers' threat

Teachers in Bradford may take industrial action after having to take back boys caught with an air pistol ....



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# Teachers may strike over pupils caught with gun'

AND PAUL WILKINSON

TEACHERS were yesterday considering industrial action after their school was ordered to take back two boys caught with an air pistol and ammunition. The 14year-olds were expelled from Yorkshire Martyrs Collegiate Roman Catholic School, Bradford, after one brought the Luger-style gun to school to sell to the other.

But the school was this week ordered to re-admit them next term after their parents appealed to an

decision threatened the running of the school and could undermine its reputation for good discipline.

Last night in a statement issued on behalf of Mr Clarke and Canon Peter Maguire, the chairman of the governors, by the Bradford Catholic diocesan press office, the decision was soundly condemned. A decision was reached on good grounds to expel the pupils. Other people have undertaken to reverse that decision. If the boys are to be accepted back, the body that re-

independent appeal panel. John versed the governor's decision has chaos at the Ridings School, Hali-Clarke, the head teacher, said the got to take responsibility for what may happen subsequently."

A teacher caught the boys trying to settle on a price for the air pistol on January 17. They were expelled on January 21 and the police informed. They described the gun as a "magazine fed air weapon

looking like a replica 9mm pistol."
Two-thirds of Mr Clarke's staff belong to the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, known for its readiness to act against unruly pupils. Its strike threat brought the

fax, to the Government's attention and its members walked out of Manton Junior School, Worksop. for ten days last autumn, in protest at the return of a disruptive ten-

Nigel de Gruchy, Nasuwt general secretary, said: "We have to give a clear message that this kind of act is totally unacceptable. We must say to these pupils 'Sorry you must

If we do not deal with this in a serious way, within a year or two we shall have American style

searches to make sure no voungster is bringing a gun into schools."

Mr Clarke said: "Parents come to this school because they know we have strong discipline. This does make it difficult to manage the

Mr Clarke said the appeal panel would have to take the consequences of any violent act if the boys did indeed return. But he added: "I acept that at the moment the independent appeals panel has said they should return to the school. What actualy happens remains to be seen." Brian Garvey, a

union's national executive said: "At this stage, the members are just asking for advice. But as far as I am concerned, in today's situation with regard to weapons and school security, anybody who takes a gun into school is a danger." He the union would try to resolve the situation by discussion first.

Details of the case emerged as the NASUWT annual conference called for the abolition of the independent appeals panels. Mr Garvey added: These appeals panels are totally useless for the case of schools trying to improve the education of pupils within them. They are a damn nuisance and are harming the opinions of those who know best."

Mr de Gruchy added: "If school governors are capable of firing teachers, they ought to be carable of firing children as well. The credibility of a governing body is destroyed when their decisions are overturned in this way.

"Unfortunately I don't detect any proposal in any manifesto to abolish these panels so I think these. problems will just continue."

#### **Teachers** call for governors to sit tests

BY DAVID CHARTER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

TEACHERS called yesterday for government tests for 340,000 state school governors to ensure they are up to the job. Too many were selfimportant, patronising and ignorant of school life, the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers' annual con-

Despite warnings that tests would deter parents from volunteering, the union agreed to press the Depart-ment for Education for mandatory training and assessment of governors. Nigel de Gruchy, the general secretary, said teachers wanted governors to prove their competence in a range of skills before qualifying. They should show they understand employment law, education law and have a pretty sound knowledge of finance." he said.

Training to run schools with turnovers of El million or more often only lasted a day or two, the conference in Bournemouth was told. Paul Whittaker, a teacher from Devon, told the conference: "Frequently individual governors as-sume powers through, perhaps, a distorted image of

their own self-importance." Tony Hardman, a head from Liverpool, said that the Audit Commission had expressed concern about their probity, and the examples it had found suggested that "governors sometimes give work to family and friends without going through the tendering process".



Gerald Bunting, disabled after attack by Rita Wilding

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Rita Wilding with her son and her husband, whose death she blamed on Mr Bunting

## Disruptive boy's mother guilty of hate campaign

convicted yesterday of waging a hate campaign against a former council official who had made remarks about her family on television.

Rita Wilding, 35, was remanded in custody for three weeks for psychiatric and presentencing reports. A jury at Nottingham Crown Court took 20 minutes to find her guilty of making threats to kill Gerald Bunting and making threats to destroy his

Last year teachers threatened to go on strike because of her son, Richard, 14. Staff at his comprehensive school claimed that he was impossible to teach because of his disruptive behaviour.

Mr Bunting told the court that he and his wife had received 72 telephone calls in a month from the Wilding family, threatening to kill them and burn down their home in Carlton Hill, Nottingham. He told the court that he ran for his life after one of the Wilding boys sprayed him with what he thought was petrol from a plastic bottle. In fact it was lemonade, but he thought that another of the sons was about to set him alight with a match. Mr Bunting, who attended court using crutches, said he

was 80 per cent disabled after being pushed down a flight of stairs by Wilding four years ago. She was convicted of

assaulting him. Wilding, of Bilborough, Nottingham, said she and her sons went to Mr Bunting's home in Carlton Hill, Nottingham, to protest about comments he made about the family on a television programme about violent women. She said her husband Phillip, 57, had suffered a heart attack while watching the programme. Two days later he had another and died. Mr Bunting said: "She blamed me for her husband's death."

## Boy murderer could be freed in 512 years

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A BOY who helped his teenage brother and father to murder his mother could be freed from jail in 5½ years, after a recommendation by the Lord Chief Justice.

John Howells, 16, and his brother, Glen. 17, were sentenced to be detained at Her Majesty's Pleasure for killing their mother with a hammer at their home in Huddersfield, west Yorkshire. Yesterday it was disclosed that Lord Bingham of Cornhill had recommended to Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, that John Howells serve seven years and Glen Howells ten years. Both have already spent 18 months

in custody. The recommendation comes after advice from the trial judge on the minimum sentence to be served by both youths for "retribution and deterrence". The Home Secretary can either confirm the recommendation or impose

his own term. David Howells, 48, who was also convicted of murder, is understood not to have been informed of the minimum sentence he must serve. The three were found guilty of murdering Evelyn Howells at their home in August 1995.

Last night Gordon Perfitt, John Howells's solicitor, said: "It's slightly less than we anticipated. John was a little surprised, but at least it removes all the uncertainty."

#### Bank sacks three over e-mail porn

NATWEST Markets, the bank's troubled securities arm that recently uncovered a E90 million black hole in its derivatives department, has sacked three employees and disciplined 12 others for distributing pornography on the electronic mailing system.

NatWest Markets disciplined the staff concerned last Thursday after being tipped off by Mercury Communications. A NatWest spokeswoman confirmed last night that three "agency" staff had been sacked for bringing in computer files of "soft" and "hard" pornography and downloading it on to the NatWest internal e-mail system. The material was then distributed internally and sent to other banks and trading

houses in the City. A spokeswoman for Mercury Communications, which supplies corporate Internet services, confirmed the company's role in the investiga-tion, which began after Mercury noticed "an unusual amount" of electronic mail generated by the NatWest offices.

#### Road rage

Continued from page 1 typically involved drivers in their mid-thirties, in contrast to perpetrators of most social violence, who were generally young men aged 18 to 23. Those involved were usually

strangers, in contrast to most crimes of violence, which involved people who knew each

Many incidents involved eople not normally associated with violence. In one, a Jewish elder caught in a minor collision at traffic lights in North London assaulted a Buddhist monk in the other car. In another, a vicar's wife assaulted a woman beautician, who she said "cut her up⁴ on an urban road in

northern England. Two doctors, involved in separate incidents, produced guns to press their points. A bodyguard of the Queen assaulted a driver, and other incidents have involved company directors, police and other professionals.

Professor Groeger, who presented his findings in Edinburgh last night, said: "This is something separate from nor-mal social violence." Road rage was the violent crime most likely to involve the middle classes because they were rarely involved in other violence. They were also more likely to have jobs that in-volved driving high mileages.

## NEWSTA BRIEF

## 30,000 rise expected in prison population

The prison population in England and Wales is to rise by 30.000, requiring a multimillion-pound programme to build at least 30 jails, according to government figures released vesterday. The number of offenders in jail is estimated to rise by 19.200 in the next nine years, reaching almost 75.000 by 2005, and a further 11.000 are expected to be jailed by 2011 as a result of the Government's new sentencing regime, although this prediction could already be out of date. The Home Office study shows the number of young offenders sentenced is estimated to rise by more than half, from 6,500 to 9,900, between 1995-2005. sentenced male adults by 36 per cent (from 34,800 to 47,500) and the number of women in jail from 2,300 to 3,500.

#### Epilepsy drug warning

A drug for the treatment of epilepsy can be ten times more dangerous to children than its manufacturers first believed. Glaxo Wellcome has issued a warning pointing out that new research in America suggests that the recognised allergic side-effects of Lamictal can be serious and, in rare cases, fatal. The research shows that, among children under 12, between one in 300 and one in 100 can suffer a serious allegic reaction. The drug has been used by adults for a decade, but has been licensed for children for

#### Aid for space mission

The space mission destroyed by the failure of the Arlane 5 launcher last June is to rise again, courtesy of a cheaper Russian rocket. The European Space Agency has agreed to support the Cluster mission, which involves four satellites designed to study magnetic fields around the Earth at four points in space simultaneously. The result of ten years' work were lost when Cluster crashed into the swamps of French Guiana after Ariane 5 failed.

#### Murder hunt move

Police hunting the killer of Louise Smith, who was murdered after leaving a nightchub two years ago, began searching a house 400 yards from where her body was found. Miss Smith, 18, left a club called Spirals in Yate, near Bristol, early on Christmas Day, 1995. Her body was found eight weeks later in a quarry. Police yesterday removed two family cars and a mattress from the house and dug up the garden.

#### Corneas grown in lab

Italian scientists have repaired badly damaged eyes by growing fresh corneas in a laboratory dish. The cornea is the transparent material which covers the iris and pupil. Severe corneal damage can cause blindness. The team reports in The Lancet that, two years later, the tissue remains in place, is functioning normally and there has been "a striking improvement in patients' comfort and

#### Ice-fall mother returns

A mother of three-year-old triplets, whose expedition to the North Pole almost ended in disaster, said that she survived a five-minute plunge into the freezing waters of the Arctic Ocean by recalling her husband's parting words. Ann Daniels, 32, said: "When I left my husband, he told me, 'If things get bad, stay calm. I started to pull myself out and, on the third attempt, I managed." She returned to Britain yesterday after more than a month away from her family.

#### Veteran dies in break-in

An 82-year-old war veteran collapsed and died after chasing two thieves he disturbed breaking into his car. Peter Kotwinski, who fled to Britain from Poland after the Nazis invaded and served with the air force, had been visiting his wife Margaret in a nursing home in Ashton under Lyne. After seeing two young men taking the radio cassette. Mr Kotwinski alerted staff at the nursing home,

## Thief let his name slip

Neil Turley, Z7, of Lydney, Gloucestershire, had a twinge of conscience after stealing a car for a 350-mile round trip. And that was his undoing. When he returned, he left a box of chocolates in the car with a note of apology written on the back of a bail form giving his name and address. Turiey pleaded guilty to several charges, including taking the car and driving without insurance. He was banned for six months and placed on probation for two years.

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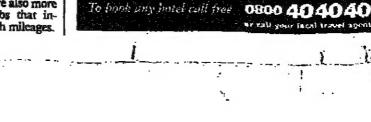
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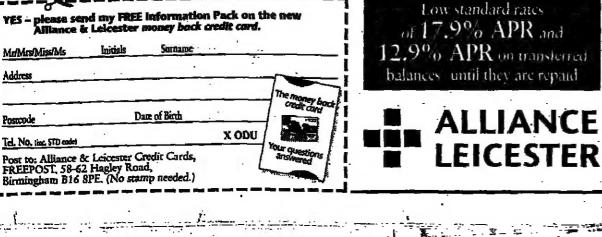
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# Sun Tycoon brought down BCCI with £750m fraud

ABBAS GOKAL, the shipping mogul convicted yesterday of stealing \$1.2 billion (£750 million) from customers of the Bank of Credit and Commerce international, spent the money on a life of Rollspected Royces, private jets and exotic

holidays.
Victims of the fraud ranged from the Sheikh of Abu Dhabi, who lost about E312 million, to Western Isles council in Scotland (£24 mil-lion), Westminster City Coun-cil (£3.5 million) and Harlow council in Essex (£4.5 million). Council tax bills will be higher and council services reduced as a result until well into the next century.

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Gokal's personal fortune is thought to exceed £20 million. The son of wealthy Pakistani traders, he was educated at the exclusive St Patrick's High School in Karachi and was a regular visitor to Britain, where the bank had its headquarters.

He had a home in Ealing, west London, and in Geneva. plus a chalet in the ski resort of Megeve. His two sons and two daughters are thought to have attended expensive schools in Switzerland.

Gokal, 61, and his family ran up credit card bills totalling £245,000 from 1987 to 1992. Since his arrest three years ago, he had been on remand at Brixton prison, where he will remain until he is sentenced at the Old Bailey next month.

His was the fifth successive conviction from the Serious Fraud Office investigation into BCCI, which collapsed in 1991 with debts of \$10 billion. About 38,000 British creditors were affected. The Gokal case, led by Chris Dickson, a senior SPO lawyer, involved the biggest sum in a British fraud

The Geneva-based company had borrowed so much money



Gokal: attempted to escape in Pakistan



Gokal's wife the family kept three houses

from the bank that one could not survive without the other. Working with BCCI's senior executives, Gokal created a network of offshore front companies to carry funds back to his own pocket by a circuitous route. Millions of dollars went round in an exercise likened by SFO investigators to a "giant washing machine". The money was laundered through banks in New York.

The SFO found documents signed by Gokal in a London safe deposit box which showed that he and his brothers, Mustafa and Murtaza, owned and controlled the companies involved in the fraud. Secretaries and other junior Gulf Gulf Group was the biggest Group employees were nomi-single borrower from BCCI. nee directors of the phony companies, and were required to sign thousand of documents

cion, that their friend, neigh-

bour, parmer or husband is responsible for Nicola's

Police have begun DNA tests on more than 100 local youths. There is concern that

the killer must be local, and

women are reluctant to walk

alone after dark through

just three days earlier, along-side a dimly lit alleyway. Walburga Burrell, whose flat is 50 yards from the entrance

to the alleyway, said: "Women

won't walk there at nights now

as the man must have picked the one place around here

where he knew he could not be

burgh's Award scheme.

and Doc Marten's boots, was

seen a few yards behind

Nicola as she slithered on

snow-covered roads on the vay to a pub to meet friends.

Police do not know whether

is shielding whoever did it.

and perhaps money might tempt them to betray him.

More than 1,500 calls from the public is unprecedented."

Nicola's father, Andy Dix-

on, added: "It's frustrating:

there has been a magnificent

he had been stalked. Mr Crouch said: "Som

The killer struck in the

ounds of a house, vacated

designed to throw BCCI's auditor, Price Waterhouse, off

The documents were produced in the special duties department at BCCI's head-quarters in Leadenhall Street in the City of London. This was a whole unit dedicated to labricating decuments about fabricating documents about Gulf Group, including invent-ing commercial histories for the non-existent businesses

and false loan agreements. Gokal fled from Geneva for Pakistan in 1992, shortly before police raided his offices. In July 1994 he was invited to America to give evidence under an immunity-from-prosecution deal agreed with he American authorities, but the SFO was tipped off and the police were waiting when his light landed at Frankfurt to

He had been declared bankrupt by this stage, but never-theless flew first class under an assumed name. He was arrested and extradited to Britain. After repeated delays, the trial opened at the Old Bailey in September 1996.

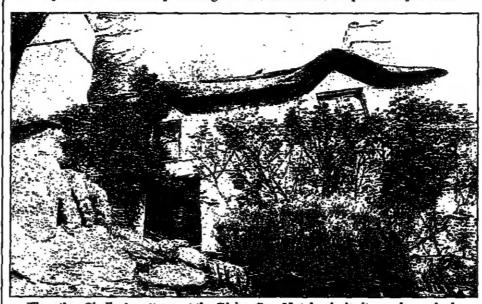
The main loser in the BCCI affair is undoubtedly the Sheikh of Abu Dhabi, who deposited more than £1.625 billion with BCCI over a ten-year period. He thought the money was being invested in safe government instruments. Between 1983 and 1989, more than E312 million of his money was siphoned off to Gulf Group. Only about £102 million has been recovered.

Many small businesses and private individuals also lost money, including a Londoner who was saving for a bone marrow transplant for his adopted son.

Gokal, who had denied fraud and false accounting. will be sentenced at the Old Bailey next month and faces confiscation of some of his assets. He received legal aid for the 122-day trial, estimated to have cost a total of £10 million. He may be made to contribute to his defence bill.



Amy Prideaux at Shelley's Cottage where, she claims, the poet honeymooned



The other Shelley's cottage, at the Rising Sun Hotel, admits it may have rivals

## Clash of chapter and verse over Shelley's abode

BY ALAN HAMILTON

TWO rival Devon hoteliers are locked in dispute over which of their inns played host to Percy Shelley and his teenage bride Harriet Westbrook on their honeymoon in 1812. Both the Rising Sun and Shelley's Cottage Hotel in the village of Lynmouth are daiming that the pale romanric poet, then only 20 years old, began his brief marriage to the 16-year-old Harriet in

Both, it appears, are entire-ly wrong: Shelley honey-mooned 600 miles away, in Edinburgh.
The dispute, which has

immered for years, has resurfaced because of the Rising Sun's inclusion in the latest edition of the Great Inns of England guidebook, and its subsequent advertising in national newspapers, playing on the Shelley connection. Amy Prideaux, proprietor of the rival Shelley's Cottage, insisted yesterday that hers was the true location.

Hugo Jeune, proprietor of the Rising Sun, said yesterday he did not want to comment on what he regarded as an old row. But he said he had never claimed to have any documentary evidence that his hotel was the Shelleys' love nest, and had never denied that there were two possible claimants to the title.

The truth of the matter, according to all the standard biographies of the poet, is that Shelley ran away to Edin-



The only Percy Bysshe

burgh and married Harriet there on August 28, 1811, remaining in the city for some time before journeying with their friend Thomas Jefferson Hogg - who wasted no time in making a pass at the new Mrs Shelley — to York. Ten months later the Shelleys arrived in Lynmouth.

Roderick Cavaliero of the Keats-Shelley Memorial Association yesterday burrowed into the poet's own letters to discover Shelley's description of his Devon home. The poverty and humbleness of the apartments is compensated by their number, and we can invite our friends with a consciousness that there is enclosed space wherein they may sleep."

Whichever is the correct cottage, it did the Shelleys no good. Within two years Percy ran off to Switzerland with Mary Godwin, and Devon never saw him again.

## Reward to catch New Year killer

By Daniel McGrory

THE parents of a murdered schoolgirl are hoping that a £23,000 reward will tempt someone to stop shielding her killer. Detectives are still baffled after three months of

Nicola Dixon, 17, was sexu-ally attacked and bludgeoned to death on her way to a New Year's Eve party in Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands. Police received 1,500 calls from the public, but none has led to the murderer. Local businessmen and community leaders have now helped to raise the reward money.

Rita Dixon, 46, said yester-day: Someone must be shield-ing the murderer. We can not rest until the killer is arrested and in prison. Nicola deserves justice. We do not want the murderer to strike again and inflict hell on another family."

Detective Chief Inspector Kelvin Roberts said: "I find it hard to believe that somebody doesn't know, or have a suspi-



Nicola Dixon: she was killed in alleyway

#### Drunk trio jailed over flight delay

By EMMA WILKINS

THREE drunken passengers who caused a pilot to abort a flight seconds before take-off were each jailed for six months yesterday.

The men were escorted from the Air 2000 flight bound for Crete after hurling abuse at each other and insulting stewardesses at Manchester airport last July. The other 231 passengers cheered as they were removed.

Manchester Crown Court was told that Edward Lunden. Philip Vincent and Ian Lewis were among a group of nine friends travelling together. But they were so drunk that they needed help to walk up the aircraft steps to their seats. Michael Murray, for the prosecution, said.

They were warned by the cabin crew five times as the The victim was in her last year at school studying for A levels and worked as a volun-teer with children's groups as aircraft made its way towards the runway, until the pilot part of her Duke of Edindecided that it was not safe to take off with them on board A man about 5ft 5in, in his and returned to the terminal where the three were arrested. early 20s, in a dark overcoat

Lunden, 23, Vincent, 20, and Lewis, 22, all from Liverpool. admitted drunkenness on an aircraft, but they looked shocked when Judge Blackburn jailed them and ordered them to pay the airline £450 each as compensation for the delay they caused.

The judge said: "This is not ordinary drunkenness — disgusting as it is — this is drunkenness on an aeroplane carrying a large number of passengers, where discipline is important. This sort of response and yet it hasn't brought a result." behaviour will not be tolerated

## To the ends of the earth and the top of the world. Only two of us have made it.

On May 9th 1994, Erling Kagge conquered first man to achieve the impossible.

He'd made it to the North Pole with no outside help. He'd made it to the South Pole totally alone. And he'd climbed Everest at his first attempt.

He was accompanied on all three expeditions by one watch. His Rolex. "The reason I've

succeeded is not because I've been fitter than anyone else but because I've

been very thorough with my preparations.

"I studied the equipment that the local inhabitants use.

"I looked at high tech and low tech. Then,

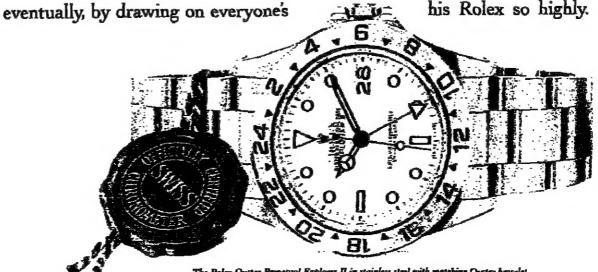
experience, I chose the equipment I knew I could

So not surprisingly, Erling Kagge chose a Rolex Explorer II."I knew instinctively that it was the right watch," he says. "It's built to withstand almost anything. It's the only thing that's been on all the trips with me and it's never once let me down."

Strength and reliability are qualities that Erling Kagge values above all others.

"I never trust to luck," he says. "But the fact is, the better your equipment the luckier you get."

Maybe that's why he values



sell Rolex watches. For the address of your nearest Rolex jeweller, and for further information on the complete range of Rolex watches, write to The Rolex Watch Company Limited, 3 Stratford Place, London W1N 0ER or telephone 0171-629 5071.

## Laird fires poaching broadside

BY SPURLEY ENGLISH

A HIGHLAND laird has accused residents of Fort William of being "idle deer paachers" cashing in on the temand for venison created to the BSE crisis.

Michael Wigan, who owns the 23,000-acre Borrobol es-tale in east Sutherland, says has posching has become big business for some Highlanders, as venison is increasingly seen as a safe alternative to beet. He writes in the April edition of the hunting and shooling magazine The Field: Fort William houses many heoretically idle men surrounded by deer country. Lochaber is a notorious poaching ground ... most Highland deer poachers are local men with poaching in their blood."

His remarks provoked an angry response from lan MacDonald, who represents Fort William on Highland Council. Trading insults. he said: "This man obviously has a totally jaundiced outlook on life. I know locals in the town are annoyed by these statements, but my advice is to laugh it off. Gnat bites do not

hurt anyone. Let this idios have his say." Mr Wigan wrote that some

their backs on mainstream careers in favour of the lucrative, tax-free income available from poaching. "Game dealers were paying estates £1.40 a pound in autumn 1996. This means a good stag in prime condition in September would fetch £200. Five stags a week is £1.000. No tax is paid

and there are no costs." Mr Wigan, who regularly writes about the Highlands, is an Englishman who inherited Borrobol estate at Helmsdale and lives on the farm all year. It was bought by his family in 1938 for £32,000.

## Advert campaign prescribes cannabis

By ALEXANDRA FREAN MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

AN ADVERTISING campaign promoting the thera-peutic use of cannabis for arthritis and multiple sclerosis is be launched this weekend. It argues that laws banning medicinal use are contradictory, as GPs are allowed to prescribe substitutes for other drugs such as heroin.

One advertisment shows a cannabis leaf in a pestle and mortar, and has the slogan: "I can't prescribe you a safe. naturally occurring herb for the pain of MS. But I can give

Cannabis was available on prescription until 1971. The new move has been organised by Clare Hodges, an MS sufferer who runs the Alliance for Cannabis Therapeutics. She told the advertising magazine Campaign: "We are not campaigning for the general legalisation of cannabis. We want people to understand it is a valuable medicine and we are campaigning to have it made available from doctors. "I am running this cam-paign from my back room. I hope it will take things on to a

new level." Sharon Gallacher, an advertising executive who created the advertisements without charge, said: "I read an article about Clare Hodges and contacted her to see if there was anything I could do to help.
The idea is to raise people's consciousness. Most people are aghast if you tell them that you can get heroin on pre-scription, but not cannabis."

The alliance has been hoping that newspapers might agree to print the advertisements without charge. Yesterday the Economist magazine said it would be delighted to carry the advertisements, although it would be reluctant to

Alan Dunachie, advertising manager for the Economist. said: "It would be difficult for a publication which has already written several times about bringing cannabis within the law not to run these

# **Eurotunnel safety** promise fails to curb blaze fears

By Kathryn Knight

EUROTUNNEL agreed yesterday to introduce new safety procedures after admitting that there had been "avoidable delays" in tackling the Channel Tunnel fire last November. But the company said it would not change the open lattice-work wagons which some

believe caused a "blowtorch"

effect in the tunnel.

The Fire Brigades Union accused executives of complacency after they confirmed that more of the wagons were to be ordered at a cost of £130 million. The Consumers' Association urged lorry drivers to think twice before they used the freight service. The evidence produced by Euro-tunnel doesn't address the question of the lattice-sided wagons at all. There are more

spokesman said. Eurotunnel hopes that its new measures, including smokehoods for crew and passengers, will allow freight services to resume by mid-June. The Channel Tunnel Safety Authority said, how-ever, that it wanted more information and that it was impossible to predict when

service tunnel as a priority

stopped in the tunnel

Detter staff training

only if close to an exit

The new safety measures announced yesterday by

I in the event of fire, the train immediately to make a

controlled stop and passengers to be evacuated to the

smokehoods for passengers and crew centralising all fire alarm monitors in railway control

installing electronic devices to specify where a train bas

☐ more checks on each lorry at time of loading
☐ surveillance of each departing shuttle by crew at both
ends of platform, in contact with control centre

trains with fires on board will be allowed to proceed

six fire control stations with a water spray system in

☐ installation of additional fire suppression systems

improved manning of the control centre

questions than answers," a

permission would be given for unnel itself," he said.

ains to start. Thirty people needed hospital treatment after being trapped in a smoke-filled compartment when the fire broke out 12 miles from the French coast. Fifteen lorries and the rear locomotive of the shuttle were destroyed, as was 600 metres of tunnel.

The cause of the blaze is still being investigated by the French authorities, although in its report yesterday Eurotunnel ruled out a system or mechanical failure. Investigations have centred on multiple failures of the tunnel safety systems, including the ventilation system, and an apparent one-hour delay in summoning Kent Fire Brigade.

Robert Malpas, co-chair-man of Eurotunnel, conceded yesterday that more could have been done to help the passengers to escape more quickly. "We have, of course. learnt lessons from this incident and have already implemented a number of important changes in procedures, equipment, manning levels and training to improve further the protection of pas-

Mr Malpas defended the decision to place a £130 million order for more lattice design wagons within 18 months. "I do not believe there is any need to modify the design of the wagons, he said. "We are in discussions with the safety authority."

Mike Fordham, assistant general secretary of the Fire Brigades Union, said Eurotunnel's refusal to change the wagons was complacency at its worst. There will be another fire down the tunnel - that's a certainty. Fires will always occur. We believe that if it does occur, life will be lost. The public should not travel down there until it is as safe as it can possibly be," he said.

The tighter safety measures announced yesterday include more fire suppression systems in the tunnel, more checks on each lorry as it is loaded, and electronic devices to show more precisely where a train

has stopped.

All freight shuttles will be fitted with smokehoods before the service resumes. The smokehoods, which were being tested yesterday by Kent Fire Brigade, will be kept in the amenity coach of the freight shuttles and distributed by the chef de train.

A spokesman for the Chan nel Tunnel Safety Authority said its report on the fire would be released after the election. "We are considering Eurotunnel's submissions at the moment. We have asked them already to complete a number of measures as a precondition to restarting the shuttle service."

The fire has so far cost about E75 million in lost revenue. The car service has been restricted by the tunnel repairs. The cost to the company will be about E10 million with the rest covered by insurers. Total claims on insurers, including repair costs, are likely to be nearly 200 million.



Jeremy Irons arriving for yesterday's inquest. His vehicle overturned in the crash

## Irons tells of fight to avoid crash that killed driver of 79

By TIM JONES

THE actor Jeremy Irons described yesterday how he tried to avoid an oncoming car before a crash on an Oxfordshire country road that resulted in the death of a 79-year-old

Richard Belgrove, of Thame, Oxfordshire, suffered multiple injuries and died in hospital a month after the accident last September. Mr Irons, 48, told the inquest in Oxford that, as he rounded a notorious bend near Tetsworth in his four-wheel-drive vehicle, he saw Mr Belgrove's car straddling the white line. The car was moving further.

ger, said that she remembered over towards me into my line and I swerved to avoid it," he nothing of the accident. Sergeant Frank Yabsley of

"I pulled on to the verge but not far enough, because there was an impact. At that point I closed my eyes and when I opened them again I found my Jeep was on its side."

Mr Irons, who won a bestactor Oscar for his role in Reversal of Fortune, lives in Watlington and said he was familiar with the road. He had noticed the offside wheels of Mr Beigrove's car were under pressure as it negotiated the bend. The driver's wife.

Thames Valley Police said that, if Mr Irons had not been driving a left-hand-drive vehicle, he would have been seriously injured. There was no evidence that either driver had been going too fast. Nicholas Gardiner, the Ox-

fordshire Coroner, recorded a verdict of accidental death.

Five days before the accident, Mr Irons's wife, Sinead Cusack, and their two sons escaped injury when their horsebox overturned on the M4 in South Wales.

## The way to a woman's heart is through your wallet

By JEREMY LAURANCE

MEN advertising for partners in newspapers want a physically attractive woman, while women want a solvent, inde-

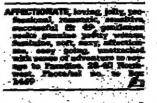
lonely-hearts columns shows. The findings of the study of 2,000 lonely-hearts advertisements which appeared in 20 local and two national newspapers, including The Times, provide useful tips on how to get the most replies.

Analysis of the advertise ments, presented at the British Psychological Society's annual conference in Edinburgh, showed that men tended to offer wealth, professional status and property, and to seek attractive women with warmth and sensitivity, traditionally seen as feminine qualities. Women tended to emphasise their attractiveness but, above all, what they wanted in a man was

solvency.

Many men also claimed to offer warmth, love and care and did so more than the women. Mark Mason, of # Nene College, Northampton, who conducted the study, said it was impossible to tell whether these were genuinely meant, or a cynical ploy designed to entrap unwary

"It is possible men are changing and becoming 'new men' who are less shy about advertising these qualities." he said. "Or it may be that they know this is what women



A typically male appeal through The Times

want and are offering it as a way of gaining more replies."

Mr Mason said earlier studies had shown that advertisers who offered stereotypi-cal qualities got more replies. "Heterosexual females look for rich men - wage-earners with their own home and car. They offer attractiveness a lot it a lot."

Few advertisers departed from convention. The commonest adjective used was genuine, closely followed by humorous, attractive, caring and loving. Only two advertisements in a thousand included adjectives such as fat. unattractive, cynical and

THE

Mr Mason said the ideal advertisement that a man could place would highlight his salary, independence, home ownership and caring nature. A sense of humour and physical attractiveness would enhance his appeal. Women should concentrate entirely on their physical attributes, using adjectives such as slim, tall and shapely.

# **Toronto Blessing**

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE Church of Scotland has warned members about the Toronto Blessing, a charismatic form of worship that originated in Canada and which can leave worshippers shaking violently, falling over, emitting animal noises and

appearing drunk.

A detailed report by the
Kirk's Panel on Doctrine. which is to be debated at the General Assembly next month, urges caution and says there is "excessive individualism, self-indulgence, elitism and theological triumphalism". It does not condemn the Toronto Blessing outright. saying that the Church may

"learn from greater openness to the Spirit", but it says there is little scriptural backing for the blessing.

The Toronto Blessing origi-nated at the Toronto Airport Vineyard Christian Fellowship on January 20, 1994, and, according to the report, is "still in its embryonic stage". Speaking in tongues, prophecy and healing can be part of the experience.

The Rev John McPake, one of the authors, said: "The report articulates a range of serious concerns which advocates of the blessing would do well to ponder and reflect upon."

## Kirk warning over | BBC to debunk myths of history | Boy's family blame

By Alexandra Frean, media correspondent

THE BBC is aiming to de-bunk popular myths about the history of Britain with the production of a television series on the nation's past.

The 16 programmes — from when the Romans left Britain in the early 5th century, up to 1914 - will form one of the corporation's most ambitious factual series. Janice Hadlow, editor of A History of Britain, said that

the programmes would be aimed at a mass audience, but would incorporate intellectual theories and challenge con-ventional perspectives. "We look back at Elizabeth I and the Armada, knowing it all turned out to be OK for her. We see that time as one of great triumph for Britain. But

she was actually fighting for her life, both literally and as a stateswoman," she said. "She was fighting in Europe at a time when England was very beleaguered - it had been through 50 or 60 years of religious upheaval and was facing opposition from France and Spain.

"As we approach the mil-lennium there's a huge amount of debate about what Britain is, how we got here, who we really are and how do we relate to the United States and Europe. That's what we hope to tackle."

She said that the series would draw from the works of

contemporary historians and chroniclers of the past, using letters and diaries depicting the lives of ordinary people. "We would hope to use things like the Paston letters. These were from a 15th-century family in Kent and are one of the earliest exchanges of letters. When the son went to London, his mother wrote to him. They give lots of details of everyday life."

Historians yesterday welcomed the series. Lord Blake, former Provost of Queen's College, Oxford, said: "People are very ignorant of their history and anything that brings it to a wider audience is to be welcomed."

The television series will be complemented by drama and music programmes on Radios 3 and 4. It will be ready for broadcast in 1999.

# police for cell death

BY PAUL WILKINSON

THE family of a 15-year-old boy who was found hanging while in police custody accused the police of negligence yesterday and said that they were considering legal action.

They said the boy was obviously at risk of suicide, having threatened to kill himself when he was arrested, and that the police should have supervised him more careful-ly. The Police Complaints

Authority is investigating.
David Green died on Wednesday in an intensive care unit, two days after being found unconscious in a cell at Hartlepool police station. He had been arrested on Sunday

night apparently as he attempted to burgle a house near his home in Hartlepool. He was detained by the occupant until police arrived.

On Monday morning, members of his family visited him at the police station. At 3pm a custody officer found him unconscious with a cord around his neck. Attempts to revive him failed and he was taken to Hartlepool General Hospital.

Yesterday an inquest was opened and adjourned by Olof Bjarkeroth, the Cleveland Coroner. A post-mortem examination was carried out but no details were disclosed.

## Cats on a warm root SPRING CLEAN YOUR PC more likely to fall

By MICHAEL HORNSBY

CATS risk many of their nine lives falling from high-rise buildings, a French ver said

Addressing the annual congress of the World Small Animal Veterinary Associ-ation in Birmingham, Gilles Dupré said nine out of ten cats survived when they tumbled from high buildings. Some had walked away from falls of eight storeys or more, but "high-rise syndrome" was an increasing hazard.

Dr Dupré and his col-leagues at the Clinique Frègis in Paris, which specialises in emergency care, have studied 413 cats which fell more than two storeys. Eighty per cent survived.

The research found that 72 per cent of the cats which fell or jumped from buildings were under two years old. After that age, it seemed, cats of survival.

learnt more sense. "As far as we know, cats, unlike humans, do not commit suicide by jumping from heights," Dr Dupré said. "They either fall by accident or because they are trying to catch something in the air.

"But they do seem prone to jump or fall more often in the spring, and at other times when the sun comes out after prolonged overcast weather.' Prompt and knowledgeable

veterinary treatment was es-sential. Dr Dupré said, if the cats' luck was to last. Two of the most common injuries are. rupture of the lungs and internal bleeding in the lungs, conditions which will not usually show up unless the chest X-ray is done immediately." Dr Dupre said improvements in emergency treatment had greatly enhanced the chances

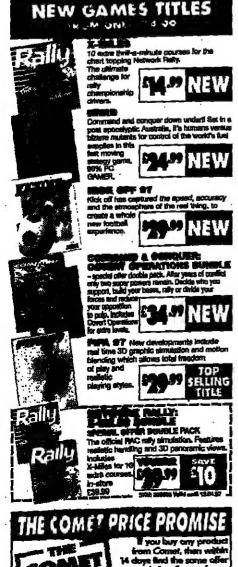
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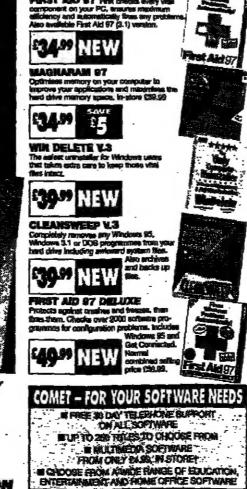
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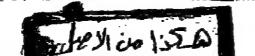
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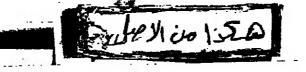
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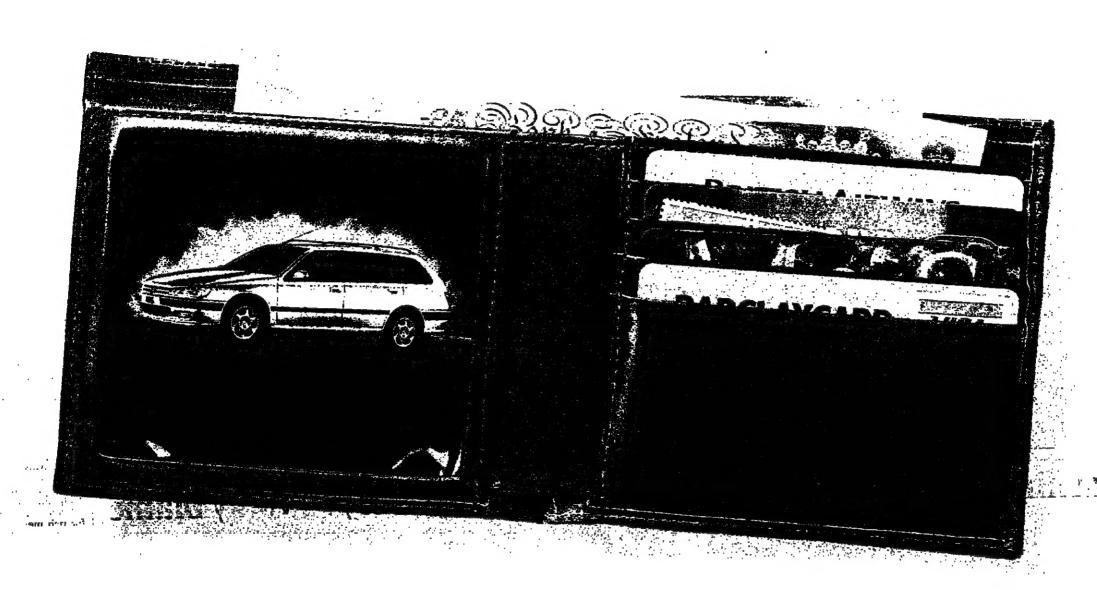
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The new Peugeot 406 Estate is a most elegant car. Its sweeping lines and subtle curves are the envy of many designers. However, it's more than just a pretty face. It comes with a stunning range of diesel and petrol engines, including a sexy

new V6. And all models are fitted with twin airbags, power-steering and remote central-locking as standard. Starting at an alluring £14,940; we think it will appeal to your head, as well as your heart. For a free information pack call 0345 000 406!



# Pulp Fiction 'looks tame' as demand grows for real TV violence

TELEVISION shows such as Blind Date and Gladiators pan-der to a growing public desire for real, rather than fictional, sex and violence, a criminologist claimed yesterday. Giadiators was far more worrying than the violent film Pulp Fiction. Mike Presdee said, because people from children to grandparents sat around the television cheering on scantily clad women contestants hitting and

vrestling with each other. Blind Date, he said, was not romantic. but "nasty and too sexy"

Mr Presdee, a reader in criminology at the University of Sunderland, and Gavin Carver, of the University of Kent, put these views in a paper, The Consumption of Crime as Popular Pleasure, which Mr Presdee will present at the British Sociological Conference at York University next week. The paper, which will be among 300

sociologists from around the world, urges more honesty about the growing addiction to real

Mr Presdee said yesterday that violence and suffering had moved from drama to real people in recent years and "humiliation television was pulling in the viewers. "Viewers want to see proper humiliation and cruelty. Blind Date is based on emotional cruelty. It can be nasty and shocking and often is sexually

been clearly badly affected by it. It is certainly not the romantic thing they set it out to be. Yet we love it. don't we? We can't wait to see the bit where they tear into each other.

Isn't that quite worrying?"

He said Gladiators "has both violence and sex. There are people with beautiful bodies hitting each other. The women are dressed in e another, but it is seen to be OK. This is sex and violence for

than Pulp Fiction because it is real violence, whereas movies are staged drama. Television is producing violence to be enjoyed by the public."

Fly-on-the-wall programmes such as Police Stop, which portrays actual car chases and crashes, show police are excited as much by the action as the viewers and criminals. He said: "Watching crime is big business. Young joyriders want the thrill of the

chase and try and provoke the police to create one. It would not be very exciting if the police did not respond, but they often do and the police are part of it. On the videos you can tell by the voices that the police are enjoying it."

Chief Superintendent Chris Tate, head of operational support at West Yorkshire Police, rejected the idea that officers got pleasure from chases. He said: "Police are doing their job and enjoyment does not come into it. We acknowledge that during a car chase adrenalin is produced and there are occasions where officers be come over-involved in cases."

Nobody was available to comment on Blind Date at London Weekend Television, but a spokes-man for Gladiators, also made by LWT, said: "Gladiators is a pepolar family show which parents and grandparents obviously consider suitable for children, judging by the number of families who apply for tickets."

#### Scare about wild 'beast' spreads to Welsh hills

A MYSTERIOUS beast is stalking the countryside attacking sheep and worrying villagers in the Cambrian mountains, it was disclosed yesterday (Nick Nuttall writes). After the beast of Bodmin. the Fen tiger and the Surrey puma comes the beast

- or beasties - of Bont. Cynog Dafis, the local MP, said yesterday: "There is a fair consenus that a puma or black leopard is at large and that there may be more than one."

The MP, along with farmers' representatives and communites around the town of Pontrhydfendigaid, which is locally known as Bont, last night demanded urgent action and funds from the Welsh Office to track down the animal. The creature, sightings of which cover a 20mile radius around the town over the past 18 months, was recently reported near the

town's pre-primary school. Mr Dafis said: "There is concern for livestock but now also concern for human safetv." He added that the Veterinary Centre in Aberystwyth had confirmed that some sheep had been killed "not by dogs or foxes but something of

# Hoaxers fox animal welfare group in clash over lambs

By NICK NUTTALL ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

A SCHEME to compensate hill farmers for lambs killed by foxes has been abandoned after hoax calls sent animal welfare workers driving thousands of miles to bogus addresses

The League Against Cruel Sports, which is against fox-hunting, launched the compensation scheme after claims by some farmers that a ban on hunting would lead to largescale losses of lambs. The league offered to pick up carcasses and compensate North Wales farmers at market rates for every lamb prov-en to have been the victim of

Half the calls it received turned out to be bogus, with a large number of callers giving their name as Williams. "It is obviously a common name in Wales, but even then it was too many to be a coincidence." Chris Owen, of the league's Cheshire branch, said.

He had been driving up to 250 miles a day, often to take league's four officers were London headquarters, said a exhausted after covering thousands of miles over the past few days.

abandoned, with about only 17 lamb carcasses having been collected. Mr Owen added: "It has been disappointing. There has obviously been an

organised campaign."

The league said it now planned to expose farmers for failing to care for lambs and sheep. It claimed that staff found numerous dead and dying lambs and sheep which had not been attacked by foxes, but neglected by farmers. Video footage is being handed to the Ministry of Agriculture for investigation. Janet Smart, also of the league, said there seemed to be

was opposed to pest control. She said it wanted to ban forhunting, but not the right of farmers to flush out foxes using hounds and shoot them.

John Bryant, at the league's

a misconception among Welsh

hill farmers that the league

useful scientific study to assess the damage caused by foxes been damaged, "We offered to put our money where our mouth is and pay to

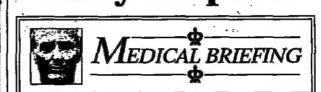
see who is right."
However, Mr Bryant said the league would contact farmers' leaders to see if the study could be tried next year. Farmers could have expected up to £40 compensation and the scheme had been officially welcomed, although many be-lieved privately that it was a publicity stunt.

Lewis Griffiths, spokesman for the Farmers' Union of Wales, said that the league's motive had not been to compensate farmers but to prove its case that foxes were not to blame. He said it was regrettable that so many hoax calls had been used. We had been wondering if they had the people and the finance to do this. We do not believe they can handle or had appreciated the size of the problem.



Glyn Williams, of Pandy Tudur, North Wales said he lost four of his lambs to foxes

# **Out-of-season** treat with a nasty surprise



FRESH-PICKED strawberries on the school dinner menu while snow still lies on the ground outside the classroom is an inviting thought. It is, however, just as well before eating the strawberries to know who has picked them, where their hands had been before they did the picking. and what the state of the fields'

sanitation was like. Strawberries picked in Mexico were recently bought by American federal authorities for distribution throughout schools in several states. By the time the Michigan authorities had traced an outbreak of hepatitis A to the strawberries, they had long since been distributed to, and presumably eaten by. 9,000 schoolchildren in 18 schools in

Several eminent British doctors would have sympathy for those children and teachers who are by now probably already suffering the early signs and symptoms of hepatitis A. Although the disease. usually caused by contamination with urine and faeces. does not usually cause lasting damage, the initial symptoms can be distressing. The nausea is sometimes so bad that the sight of food, let alone its taste or smell, induces vomiting, coupled with headaches and a high temperature.

Hepatitis A is more infectious before the jaundice shows. Once it appears, pa-tients usually start to feel slightly better.

The British medical estab-

lishment will feel much sympathy for the schoolchildren because many of them suffered similarly after a dinner given by the Society of Apothecaries. The soft-fruit pudding was apparently delicious, but its pickers had been paid a piece rate. To increase the weight of the fruit so that they would receive more money, some of the pickers had urinated over it; a high proportion of the doctors de-

veloped hepatitis A. Children and adults can have protection from both hepatitis A and B. A special preparation of the hepatitis A injection is available for children. Adults can have a combined inoculation, Twinrix, which will give protection against both varieties. Twinrix needs three injections. A licence for a paediatric preparation is expected within months.

Strawberies are not the only food that is easily contaminated. A year or two ago patholo-gists who enjoyed drinking decided to take cultures from the peanuts in the bowls on the

They found that dirty fingers dipped into the nuts had liberally coated the survivors in the bottom of the dishes with E. coli, a sure sign of faecal contamination, and that some of the drinkers hadn't washed their hands after a visit to the lavatory.

> DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD | is 0161-480 5799.

#### **第**1216年113 Children attack policeman

A gang of teenage burglars attacked a detective in Coventry with an iron bar, concrete blocks and bricks. Detective Sergeant Stephen Francis, 43, of West Midlands Police, was recovering yesterday after having stitches for head wounds in the worst attack of his 22-year police career.

Officers had been lying in wait for a gang in a council estate on Tuesday night When the youths returned, the officers gave chase and Mr Francis was attacked. Seven vouths aged as young as 14 were arrested and released or police bail. Detectives are searching for other juveniles.

#### Vicar drowned

The body of a vicar who drowned during a fishing trip on a lake was recovered yesterday. The Rev Geoffrey Calderbank, 38, had been with a friend near Tregaron, Cardi ganshire, on Wednesday. The other angler swam ashore.

#### Hamster cruelty

A man convicted of biting the head off a hamster at a party has been banned from keep Owen Harkin, 25. who denied the charge, was also fined £150 with £600 costs by magistrates in Ellesmere Port. Cheshire.

#### Easter illness

More than 50 children an believed to have suffered food poisoning after sell-by dates on Easter eggs were covered with fake labels. The old eggs are believed to have been sold from market stalls in east

#### Dogs found dead

The charred and dismem bered remains of five dogs were found in west Yorkshire, between Kippax and Fairburn ings. The dogs, found by kennel worker, are believed to have been young and healthy. Police are investigating.

#### Rocker arrested

The drummer of the American rock group Fun Lovin' Criminals has been arrested on suspicion of making obscene telephone calls in Leeds. Police traced calls made to gymnasiums to the hotel room of Stephen Borovini, 29.

#### Organ restored

An organ played by the poet Milton and heard by Oliver Cronwell has been returned to Tewkesbury Abbey after a £500,000 restoration. The 17th century organ will be heard by Princess Margaret at a thanksgiving service on Sunday.

#### £2m pint

Guinness is spending more than £2 million teaching bartenders in Europe to pour the perfect pint. Its team will show 14 countries the two-part pour method - filling the glass three-quarters full, pausing and then topping up.

#### CORRECTIONS

Croup 4 security staff were not involved in an incident (report, April 2) in which a treatment in Sheffield was chained to custody officers. ☐ The telephone number for the Cosmos Venice bargain break (travel news, yesterday)

## Wartime father, 72, owns up

By ROBIN YOUNG

FRANK SHAW could soon be reunited with his wartime sweetheart after more than 50 years, and the daughter he left when she was three months

The former Sherwood Forester, now living in Notting-ham, has come forward after his former girlfriend, Gaby, a Belgian, travelled to Nottingham at Easter to search for him with her daughter. Josette, who is now 51. Mr Shaw and Gaby first met in Brussels in the closing days of

Gaby and Josette refused to disclose their surnames,



because they did not want to upset Gaby's Belgian husband, who knew nothing of

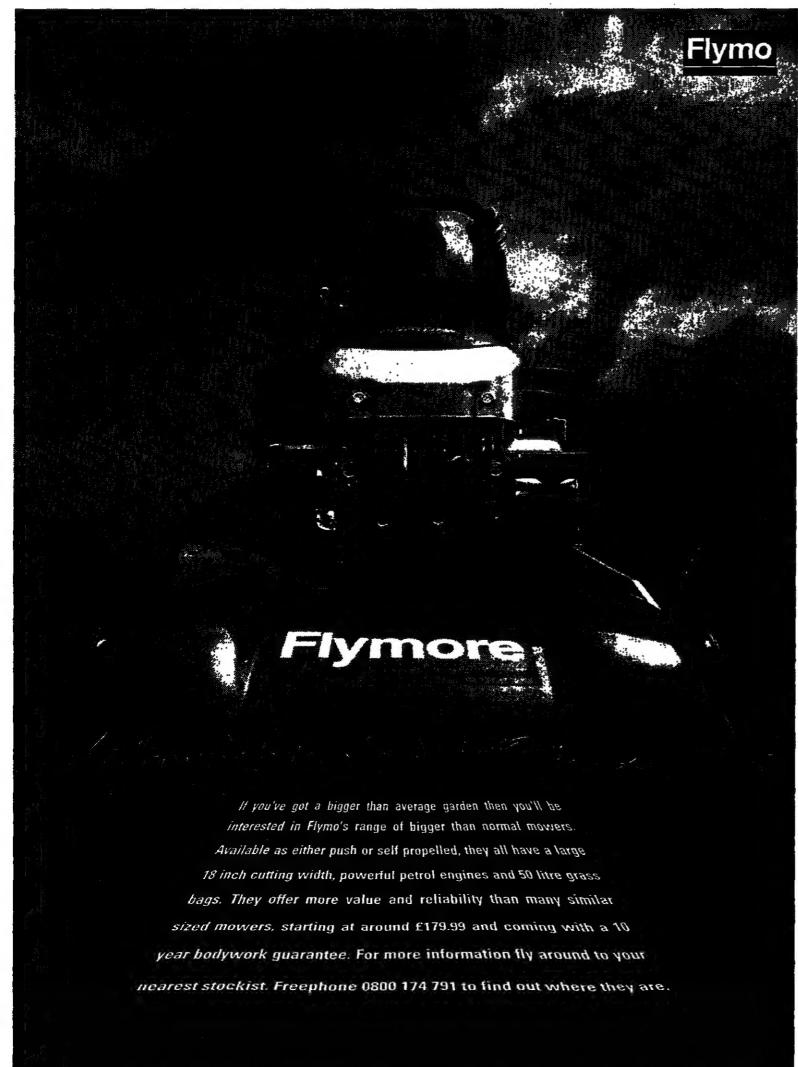
Mr Shaw, 72. said yesterday: "It is not something I am proud of. I think about them

often and I feel bad, especially

knowing now that Gaby's mother died four months after I left, I will be making contact with Josette as soon as possible, but I do not want to cause any problems with their

Mr Shaw, who was 20 at the time of his liaison with Gaby. then 18, later married Gwert nearly 50 years ago. He had been "very shocked" to read newspaper reports of Gaby's search for him.

He said: "I had told my wife all about it. It happened before
I met her. I had not told my
two daughters, but when I did tell them they said not to worry, and that everyone had





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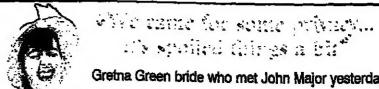
15.00 to 15.

New Britain, according to Labour, is filled with happy families in the sort of snap we all love to send to granny?

■ The Labour Party Manifesto in full - see pullout in section 2

■ Labour's Northern babes - page 14

■ Sinn Fein's sinister style of campaigning - page 15



Gretna Green bride who met John Major yesterday

# Look out, the chicken has landed



Who are you calling chicken? The morning confrontation entertains photographers as the rival birds have their first flap





The fox, the rhino, and the bears get into the act: surprisingly, some were complaining that politics was becoming trivial

#### The election turned into a real pantomime yesterday when a succession of party supporters and protesters tried to make their points dressed in animal suits. The idea was not a complete success for anyone along the campaign trail. Ben Macintyre witnessed events



SERIOUS politics got the bird yesterday as two chickens fought over party honours. Along the way, a pair of bears, a fox and a rhinoceros also joined the growing circus on the campaign trail. It was that sort of a day.

First there was the off pantomime chicken created by the Tories to follow Tony Blair and point up their claim that he had "chickened out" of a TV debate. It was then faced with a headless rival intended to demonstrate Conservative

In a bizarre scene at 8.30am, the headless pro-Labour chicken (later identified as Daily Mirror reporter David Pilditch, son of the disc-jockey "Diddy" David Hamilton) arrived at Tory Central Office intending to upstage the Tory bird as it was officially released for the first

Alex Aiken, the Conservatives' chief press officer, objected to the presence of the Opposition bird, and a brief scuffle ensued. The Tory chicken (containing the musician Noel Flanagan) faced its decapitated competitor and the two performed a strange slow cocklight on Abbingdon Green, opposite Parliament, to shouts of "peck im" from the assembled photographers.
Two 6ft bears, whose symbolism still

remains obscure, had meanwhile ap-peared in front of the Institute of Civil Engineers, where Labour was launching its manifesto. They claimed to be from the Bear Alliance and were protesting that the election was turning into a circus.

When asked where they had come

from, they would only say cryptically: "The woods."

Mr Blair then had to face a rhinoceros, possibly the most bizarre addition to the the Bayswater shopping centre, where the Labour leader had gone to distribute copies of the manifesto. The rhino appeared to be suffering from a rare dermatological condition, and was thus rather gloomy.
Initially tacitum, after close question-

ing, the pachyderm with a strong South African accent also revealed itself to be an ironic comment on the trivialisation of

"My complaint is about the level of political debate, which is becoming ludicrously cheapened by a lot of people dressing up as animals," it said, before wandering off mournfully down Queensway, presumably in search of a Additional reporting by Stephen Farrell

spin-doctor or, perhaps more urgently, a skin doctor.

By nowthe political procession had been joined by a fox - another contribution affiliated to the Daily Mirror - and set off in pursuit of the Tory chicken. which was in turn flying to Scotland to intercept Mr Blair on the next stage of his

campaign.

As the Labour campaign flew to Edinburgh, Alastair Campbell, Mr Blair's press secretary, said: "We like the chicken. It is only a matter of time before it gets on the bus. We think the chicken is a potential leader of the Conservative

On arrival in Scotland the Labour team headed straight to Stirling, constituency of Conservative Michael Forsyth, whose majority of just 236 votes makes him one of the country's most seriously endan-gered species. Early reports indicated that the chicken had landed, and was spotted outside a Stirling school holding up a placard demanding that Mr Blair answer the west Lothian question" and revealing a political accusty rare for his

The pro-Labour fox and the Tory chicken met up again as Tony Blair did a walkabout in the Stirling shopping precinct. The two creatures briefly tussled in front of Marks & Spencers before they were bundled away by visibly unamused Labour Party officials and Special Branch

By the end of the day, the Tory chicken would suffer the traditional fate of such creatures, when its costume head was twisted off by a Stirling teenager, who ran away with it. The thief was pursued by Stirling police, cautioned for breach of the peace and made to return the trophy.

Mr Campbell said that Mr and Blair had invited the Tory chicken to dinner in Glasgow tonight, but that his Tory managers had refused, saying he would be roosting overnight back in London. "The chicken chickened out," said Mr Campbell, proving that even in the barnyard the spin continues.

The carnival of the animals has added some peculiar but welcome colour to the campaign. But sadly the life expectancy of the various beasts is short. The moment the squawking, flapping or grunting multitude shows signs of turning into thundering boars, they will be sent. summarily, to the slaughterhouse.

## Artificial flavours and nothing to bite into

the posters, Labour's whiz-

kids (who have taken advice

from the advertising indus-

try) will change the colours.

frequently. Apparently this

will give people the impres-

sion of change and move-

ment, and gain our

Reactionaries may feel

that if the posters had some-

thing to say, that might also

gain attention. But changing

the colours involves less

ment that he would share

with Britain his hopes, but

could not offer a timetable

because that would be dis-

honest. Under the banner of

"honesty in politics" the

Labour leader is thus able to

make a virtue of paucity.

Having flogged the words

pledge" to death in his

Party Conference speech last

October, Mr Blair has now

"vow" and

istening to Mr Biair

was no effort. He real-

Jly had only one argu-

attention.

mental effort.

hat plans have To-ries made for the possibilier. possibility that on the eve of poll, the struggling young actor inside this chicken sells to the Daily Mirror for £5,000 his account of the bird's travels?

Stalking Tony Blair, he may come to admire him. Polling day brings head-lines in every tabloid: "Freerange chicken votes Labour". Never mind. If the rumours of a Labour U-turn on hunting prove true, the fox may defect to the Liberal Democrats.

Two bears arrived outside the hall where Tony Blair was to unveil his manifesto carrying placards. Inside it was also fancy dress. John Prescott was dressed up as the deputy leader of the Labour Party. Traditional values in a modern setting," declared Tony Blair, (quot-

ing Mr Prescott).
I looked at his deputy. My view of Prescott was partly blocked by a bowl of roses on the table. His head, in a frozen, old Labour grimace, stemed to be emerging from the petals. Traditional val-

ues in a modern setting. Hanging from the walls behind him were five enormous blank banners in five colours. This was to introduce us to them. They were the synthetic shades of those Instant Whip puddings people buy for easy-to-make desserts: artificial flavours and nothing to get your teeth

These colours are to be used for Labour posters across Britain. Instead of changing the message on come up with "bond" and

the theme.

His speech put me in mind of Senator William McAdoo's assessment of Warren Harding. The President's speeches, said Mc-Adoo, left the impression of an army of phrases moving over the landscape in search of an idea. Sometimes these mean-

"trust" as new variations on

dering words would actually capture a straggling thought and bear it triumphantly, a prisoner in their midst, until it died of servitude and overwork," McAdoo said.

After the speech, he answered questions, pretending to choose from a sea of hands. "Adam Boulton. from Sky," he said, looking desperately around the auditorium for him. The penny

The Labour Leader has perfected his all-purpose answer to the question: Why has he changed Labour's

"There's no going back to the past," he declares. As though beliefs change like the weather, beyond human control. To be in favour of capitalism in 1997 is as natural as to wear a lightweight suit in summer: 2 response to environment.

Why is he a capitalist? Because this is 1997. Why was he a socialist in 1983? Because that was 1983, silly! My hunch might be

wrong: but as I watched Tony Blair fielding inquiries, I saw, quivering beneath the surface confidence, intellectual

## A lesson in who not to blame

Peter Barnard delves beneath the mutual politeness of James Naughtie's Today interview with Tony Blair



THE past two mornings have offered an opportunity to compare and contrast the styles of two men as they bid for our attention, and even our affection, amid a cacophony of lesser voices. They may come from

different backgrounds, but in middle age they find themselves on the same stage under the same spotlight. So how are we to choose between John Humphrys'

and James Naughtie? The difference between them is more a matter of style than content, almost as if they were politicians. Humphrys is Welsh and Naughtie is a Scot, therefore neither can be said to have an innate affinity with the Middle England vote

knuckle interviewer, prone

tackled John Major.

that each solicits daily on Radio 4's Today. Humphrys is a bare-

to interruptions of "Hang on a minute!" Naughtie is a gentler soul, as befits his other role as a music presenter. Humphrys is a Souza march to Naughtie's Chapin nocturne. Therefore Conservative Central Office would prefer to have Humphrys let loose on Tony Blair while Naughtie

The reverse, of course,

has happened. On Wednesday, Humphrys confronted Major and yesterday Naughtie interviewed Blair at Labour's campaign headquarters. Naughtie may be politer than Humphrys but he is no less tenacious.

Naughtie began yester-day by asking Blair about that great non-event, the television debate. Every in-formed elector and his dog knows that a party which is 20 points ahead in the polls would be mad to risk all that with one slip on national television. Yet Blair could tell Naughtie that the Tories "changed their negotiating position", that they are "engaging in playground insults".

And, as he showed yesterday, there is one key lesson he can teach Major: even if you think the media is to blame, never blame the media. On Wednesday Major had railed at Humphrys for "hijacking" the inter-

view to talk about sleaze. On a couple of occasions vesterday Blair made it clear that when scare stories about Labour appeared. it was because the Tories had called a press conference or leaked something to reporters. Anti-Labour stories were all got up, not by the media, but by the Tories.

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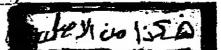
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#### ELECTION 97 9

# Major's union blues colour newlyweds' big day



The real thing: the Rigneys came to Gretna for a quiet wedding, but found a media army following Mr Major

TWO marriages were cele-brated yesterday at the Old Blacksmith's of Gretna Green, "world famous" refuge of elopers down the centuries. Michael and Majella Rigney came from Londonderry in Northern Ireland for a quiet registrar's nuptial and blessing in the legendary Scottish smithy. At the same moment. John Major carne with full media army in tow to celebrate the union of the crowns and take a symbol-laden swipe at Tony Blair's alleged plans to dismande it.

"We came over here for some quiet and privacy, but it has all been taken over by this crowd. It's spoiled things a bit," said Mr Rigney as cam-eromen skirmished for the day's tartan photo-opportuni-ty. The tarnished idyll of the new Mr and Mrs Rigney was a small price to pay for Mr Major as he dipped his toe a few yards across the border into Scotland's electoral fray. in a Brigadoon-style setting complete with piper, kilts and souvenir shop.

"I'm here to symbolise a marriage that has lusted 290 years and I hope will be good for another 290 and beyond. A marriage that suits both partners well." the Prime Minister said. To make clear that he



Mr Major chose Gretna to hammer home his stance on Anglo-Scottish union. Charles Bremner found a shaky wedlock with voters

was not merely talking about family values or his party's shaky wedlock with the vothe posed in a near gale with Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary of State, clutching a Union Flag with the Scottish banner

Alongside stood the survivors of that other battered union, the Scottish Conservative Party. This was embodied in the formidable shape of Annabel Goldie, who www. over the chair after the resig-nation of Sir Michael Hirst over an alleged past dalliance with a man. Dumfries, the Gretna constituency, is one of the handful of Scottish Tory seats which the party hopes to hold, but morale was audibly low, "We've sunk so low we can only go up," Douglas Younger, candidate for Roxburgh and Berwickshire con-

The Sassenach demeanour and prime ministerial pinstripe clashed only a little with the local scenery when

Mr Major posed beside Willie Marshall, the Greena piper. Resplendent in full regalia, Mr Marshall, a Gretna fixture for 44 years, droned swiftly into Scotland the Brave as Mr Major ap-proached for the picture. No admirer of Mr Major, the piper said he would have preferred to have serenaded nim with a rendition of Over

the Hills and Far Away.

Robert the Bruce may have been born only a few miles north, but there were no modern Bravehearts to spoil the soundbites as Mr Major laid into Labour's devolution plans. They were the product of fashionable pseudo-Scottish minds "down in London". Passing over past difficulties of Jacobite and other origin, the Prime Minister said there had never in all those 290 years been an election that people of Scotland. Labour's plans for a Sontish Parlia-

ment would not only unravel

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pose a 15 per cent tax rise. Dumfries was ideal for tweaking this raw nerve hecause much of its population works in Carlisle and is not happy at the prospect of a Scottish surtax if Dumfries becomes a zone frontalière, like an off-licence in a Channel port.

They'll be putting up a frontier post and asking for passports next, a local said. True Scottish interests, the Prime Minister insisted, lay with the Tories. "I passionately care about making sure that this union survives," he said, making the day's pun on Labour's "contract" being a con trick". That wheeze, in which the Labour leader circulated his manifesto in the form of a personal manuscript, was a tribute to Mr Blair's Scottish education at

"It's a pity that he didn't learn to do joined-up thinking after the joined-up writing."

Across the frontier in Carlisle, Mr Major gave a pugnacious show for more than 1,000 people from the extending platform of his battle bus, successor to his soap box. There was only one slip-up the name of the shop where the bus drew up — The Old Town Hall Fudge Shop.

Fettes College in Edinburgh.



A forgery: Mr Major brought Norma to Gretna, but the union he espoused was England with Scotland

## Tory speaks of 'dirty vendetta' against Hirst

TORIES IN SCOTLAND

THE depth of the division among Scottish Tories was revealed yesterday when party members described how anonymous documents were used in a dirty tricks campaign against the former chairman. Talking openly for the first time about the infighting that forced Sir Michael Hirst to resign, Richard Cook, 25,a former member of the Tory executive committee in the constituency of Eastwood in Strathclyde, said documents had started arriving anonymously at his home as soon as Sir Michael expressed an interest in becoming the Tory candidate

these things I don't think will ever be known. They arrived

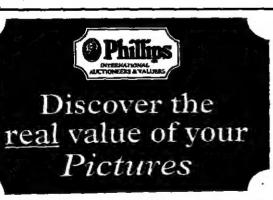
Sir Michael had hoped to stand for the Tories in Eastwood after the resignation of the outgoing Tory MP, Allan Stewart, Sir Michael resigned last Saturday admitting "past indiscretions". He is alleged to have told senior Tories of a homosexual affair with his former personal as-

sistant. Mr Cook said he had received telephone calls making clear that some people were out to get Sir Michael. They were phoning up and being openly hostile, saying this would not benefit the party long-term.

"A number of people obviously have various reasons, reasons sometimes that they weren't prepared to divulge, where you can only presume it's a personal and very bitter matter, and other people who openly said that Sir Michael had never done them any favours," he said.

Speaking on Radio 4's The World at One, Mr Cook said and that he was not aware of political opposition to Sir Michael from any section of

Another member of the Eastwood executive, an Hutchison, said Sir Michael's enemies had been prepared to sacrifice party interest to get him out. He said they seized the general election as their first opportunity since Sir Michael's appointment as Tory chairman in Scotland to do him "serious damage".



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# Building new Jerusalem wipes smile off Blair's face

servative manifesto there is a snapshot of John Major wearing a suit, pink and white striped shirt, and polka-dot dark-blue tie, and smiling as if Surrey, his favourite cricket team, had just beaten Lancashire by an innings at the Oval. He is still smiling, hair slightly ruffled, as he introduces the manifesto on the first inside

page.
Tony Blair has chosen a very different image — by Lord Snowdon - for the cover of the Labour manifesto. Instead of a snapshot. Blair's face, unretouched and half-hidden in shadow, is the cover. He wears an open-necked blue denim

brooding man of destiny, his look stern and determined, the famous toothy smile well hidden. Where Major's eyes look straight at you, Blair's are somewhere over your shoulder and peering towards a new Jerusalem where "Britain deserves bet-- as they still are, with just a hint of a smile, as he introduces the manifesto on

Labour Party staff have

Blair is presented as the







Brian MacArthur sees Labour play its leader as the strongest card in a serious party game

festo for almost a year - it grew from the New Labour, New Life for Britain manifesto submitted to the party and voted through by mem-bers last year — and their decision has clearly been to promote Blair - "the Lead-

attraction. There are two photographs of Major in the Tory manifesto; Labour has ten of Blair.

They have been carefully chosen. He is seen with three world statesmen - Nelson Mandela (where we do see the famous smile), President Clinton and President Chirac. There are three with smiling children. Unlike the Tory manifesto, where Mawas the only politician featured, a member of the Shadow Cabinet, John Prescott, is given the Page Three

cording to new Labour, is a Britain of happy families who cherish their children. and who are shown in 25

They are the sort of snaps

granny, who gets one look-in with grandpa, studying the family album. The families shop at the supermarket, travel by train, enjoy seaside caronsels, play in the parks and marry in white in

At school, where there is a

Over the past two months many hands contributed to

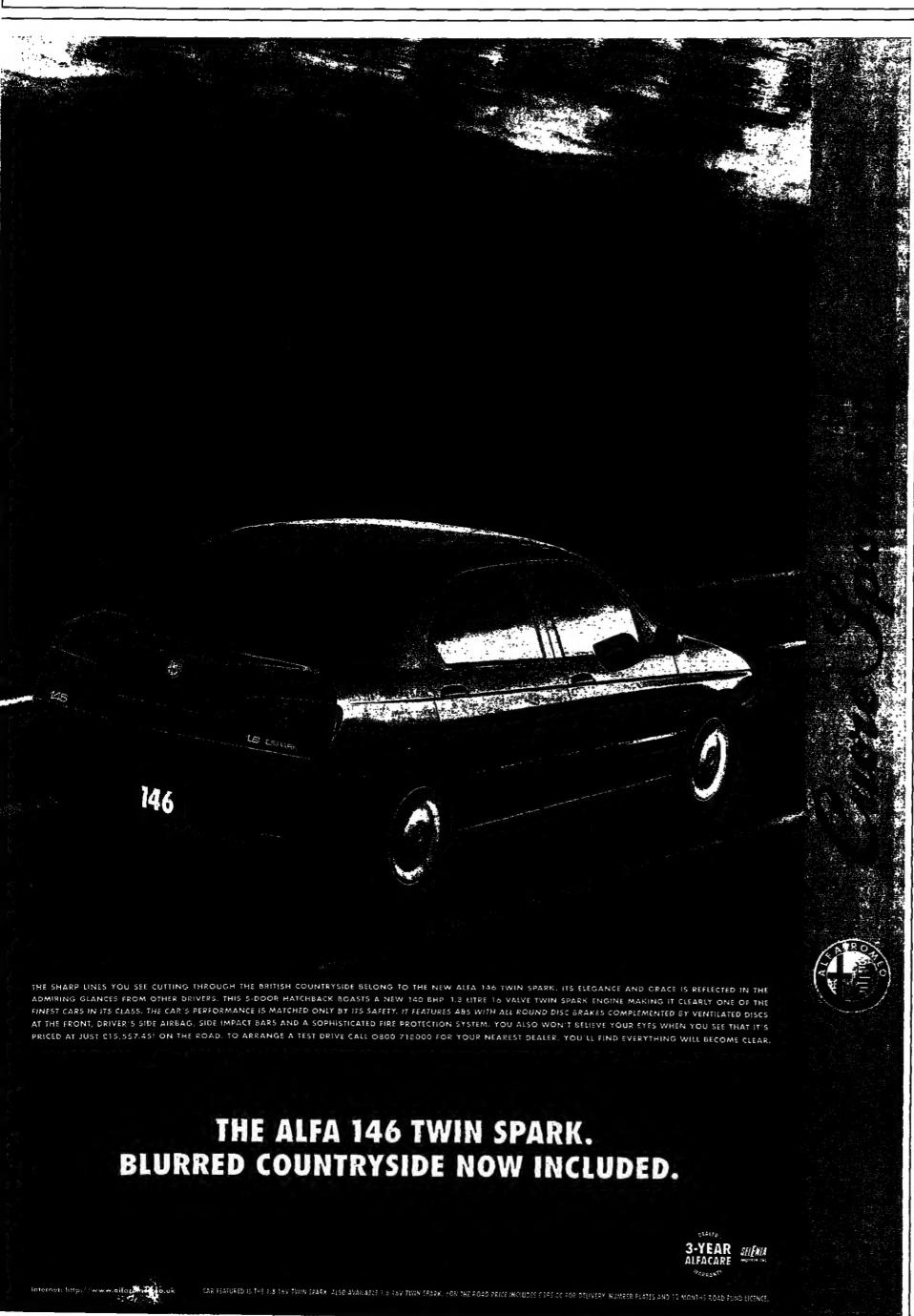
thinking schoolboy's favour-ite football team, Manchest-

drafting the final version of the manifesto, including Peter Mandelson, the campaign manager, Alastair Campbell, Blair's press ser-retary, Jonathau Powell, his chief of staff, and David Milliband and Matthew Taylor of Blair's policy team.

There was design input from the publishing manager Jocelyn Hillman. He briefed the design consultan-Giant, whose clients include the Design Council and Vauxhall, for the final product. Blair was revising the draft in his own han until last weekend.

The Tory manifesto's 56 pages cost £2. Labour offers 40 pages for £1.99, with much more solid text and none of the graphics or

Labour also offers braille and cassette versions (017) 3410) and its website (address: http ://www.labourwin97.org.uk). The Tories have similar facilities, not listed in their manifesto (address: www.conserv



## Lofty aims, but where will cash come from?

how not to lose elections. But it does not yet have a convincing strategy for office. Yesterday's manifesto, launched with a bravura performance by Tony Blair, is a mirror image of the Conservative one in its strengths, and weaknesses.

pupils wear uniform (with red pullovers), but, surpris-

ingly, do not play soccer: the

biggest sporting picture is of a boy playing rugby — though we do also get Blair

(twice) with Alex Ferguson, manager of every right-

The Labour manifesto is stronger on campaigning than governing, whereas the Tory one is more of a management plan than an election strategy.

Labour has certainly moved a long way since the 1980s. Mr Blair's advisers helpfully provided a briefing paper comparing the current manifesto with previous ones.

In the 1983 manifesto, famously dubbed the longest suicide note in history, the party admitted that its "proposals add up to a considerable increase in public spending"; said that the heart of its programme was a "new partnership with the trade unions"; and promised to "repeal the divisive Tory employment laws", withdraw from the European Community, reintroduce exchange controls. introduce discretionary price controls, establish a national investment bank and cancel Trident. These pledges were gradually abandoned or watered down the 1987 and 1992 manifestos and the transformation was completed yesterday. Mr Blair was candid about past Labour mistakes (such as its failure to tackle the trade unions in the late 1960s) and argued that the creation of "new" Labour was "some earnest of the trust I want the country to place in me and my

Mr Blair left no doubt of his aspirations - education as number one priority; not raising the basic or top rate of income tax; welfare state reform; ending a two-tier health service: restoring faith in Britain's political system. We do not, he said, "want merely to replace Government ministers. We want to change the values and priorities of Government". The problem is not ends, or even will. It is means. Labour's figures do not add up. Gordon Brown deserves credit for shedding Labour's old tax-and-spending image and he has ruled out most, though not all, uncosted pledges. But the manifesto is full of grand-sounding aspirations about improving education and health which cannot be reconciled with Labour's fiscal austerity.

It is not good enough for Labour to say it is just trying to make a start. Its specific pledges on class sizes and National Health Service waiting lists are so gimmicky and marginal as to be misleading about the amounts of money involved.Labour's promise to ing ceilings for departments for the next two years is sensible as a way of lowering expectations and disciplining incoming Labour ministers, especially as they did not come up with savings in opposition. However, existing Tory plans rely on proposals for privatisation, reform of the social



PETER RIDDELI

An in the second

security system and the like measures which Labour has opposed. Existing sales mean that the required proceeds are already sure for the coming year, but there is a £1.5 billion

gap for the following year. Admittedly, the Tories have not said where the money will come from, though they at least have a track record of meeting this target.

Mr Blair failed to answer the point when I put it to him at vesterday's launch news conference. No wonder Mr Brown is keen not to rule out possible privatisations, such as that of the national air traffic control system, and I'll bet that the Tote will be back on the agenda. Mr Blair is right that the proposed measures to reduce unemployment should help, but it would be unwise to count on this money in the short term.

M reducing unemployment should go to cutting public borrowing. There are always loose ends in any manifesto: in Labour's also over the accounting of the release of local authority capital receipts for building that will add to borrowing, while the Tories have some ragged edges in their proposals for transferring income tax allowances. The amounts may be relatively small, but they are indicative of tensions and pressures of public spending and borrowing that will face any new government.

A Blair government could make a difference, not just over constitutional reform but also in its economic and social priorities. But Labour's current minimalism risks producing such small changes as to 6 disappoint the hopes created by its "Britain deserves better" slogan. At present, the dilemcampaigning.

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# Blair threatens a tough response to union trouble

Reports by Philip Webster and Jill Sherman

TONY BLAIR made plain yesterday that he would have no truck with the leaders of striking unions who believed they could "get tough" with a government led by him.

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They will face an absolute implacable toughness if there is any talk of that sort at all," he told BBC Radio 4's Today programme yesterday morning. "I didn't spend three years turning the Labour Party into a modern party that is true to the principles of progress and justice to go backwards.

"We are not going back to those days. We paid a heavy price for it in the past. We are not paying that price again,"

Mr Blair's words, shortly before the publication of the Labour manifesto, were intended to blunt the renewed Tory offensive over the unions. At the press conference at which the manifesto was launched, he said that his earlier statement had not been made out of machismo. "I say it to make clear to people that anybody who believes the next Labour government will re-

turn to the past is wrong." The Labour leader has pledged to retain the basic elements of Tory legislation on union ballots, picketing and industrial action. However,

#### LABOUR

sources have said both that MANIFESTO different units of the workforce could be balloted the Conservatives have atseparately and that in some tacked Mr Blair's promise to cases an employer would want give unions the right to recogdifferent plants to take part in nition, should a majority of the a single all-embracing ballot. "relevant workforce" in a Disagreements would go to workplace vote in a ballot to be the Advisory Concilation and represented by a union, and it Arbitration Service and then became clear last week that to the Central Arbritration Labour had left a lot of Committee, which is in future

vant workforce" means. Party

to be headed by a judge. However, Mr Blair has been

careful to emphasise that the

measures are not an absolute

priority. They may not appear in the first Queen's Speech.

introduce trade union recogni-

tion at GCHQ, the govern-ment communications centre

☐ Political parties would have to declare all donations over

£5.000 and foreign funding of parties would be banned.

under a Labour government, the party pledged yesterday

A Labour government would also ask the Nojan

Committee on Standards in

Public Life to consider how to

regulate funding of political

parties. New powers would be

given to the Audit Commis-

sion to ensure high standards

in local government.

(Valerie Elliott writes).

at Cheltenham.

Labour has also pledged to

thinking to be done on the practicalities The commitment on recog-

The Labour Party manifesto appears in full today in Section 2. The Liberal Democrat manifesto will appear on Monday.

nition duly appeared in the manifesto yesterday, setting off another Tory assault led by Michael Heseltine. Labour's promise was short on detail, saying only that the arrangement would promote "stable and orderly industrial rela-tions" and that there would be full consultation on "the most effective means of implement-

ing the proposal". Labour has still not answered what the phrase rele-











Bill Morris, John Edmonds, Roger Lyons, Rodney Bickerstaffe, and Lew Adams. they are said to be smoothing Labour's campaign

UNION leaders yesterday dismissed accusations that they had struck a secret pact of silence to smooth Labour's election campaign. But they also refused to respond to Tony Blair's latest attack on the union movement in which he promised "implacable (oughness" in the face of unrest.

The leaders of five of the biggest anions, representing 3.5 million people, had been accused of shunning major public appearances, statements and speeches to avoid any clashes with Labour that would give the Conservatives a political advantage.

John Edmonds, head of the GMB

Union leaders deny paper's conspiracy of silence claim general union, which represents work- deal. Unions will take a view on what

ers in industries from aerospace to the NHS, said: "It is ridiculous to suggest there is a conspiracy. This election is about politics, not union leaders. We will he doing our best to help Labour." Lew Adams, who led last year's dispute on London's Underground as head of the rail union Aslef, said: "It is

suits their objectives." Mr Adams would not comment on Mr Blair's attack.

Bill Morris, leader of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said that, far from keeping silent, he would be making speeches as normal around the country, and challenged the Daily Mail, which had published the allegatio complete nonsense that there is a secret

vote Labour. Mr Morris would not respond to Mr Blair's warning. Roger Lyons, head of the Manufac-turing Science and Finance Union, was on holiday yesterday. But a spokesman said that the idea he would stay mate for a month was "laughable". On the hardening of Labour's attitude, be said: "Confrontations are less likely to happen now. There is fur less national pay bargaining and the culture is different to that of the 1970s."

Rodney Bickerstaffe, head of Unison, Britain's biggest union representing 1.3 million people, declined to comment

## Child benefit for the over-16s to be reviewed

SOCIAL SECURITY

THE manifesto does not include a pledge to scrap child benefit for 16 to 18year-olds, despite enthusiastic backing for the policy by Tony Blair and

Gordon Brown last year. The proposal, one of the most radical dreamt up by the Labour leadership, was dubbed the "teenage tax" by the Tories when it was proposed last April. But the manifesto instead fudges the issue by stating that a Labour government would review finance and maintenance for children aged over 16 to encourage more children to stay on

Mr Brown set up a working party six months ago to look into how the savings from child benefit for this age group - potentially £600 million - could be channelled into educational allowances for poorer groups. But the working party has failed to come up with any cost effective, or electorally

palatable solutions. Aides to Gordon Brown yesterday insisted that the scheme would be revived under a Labour government as part of a review of post-lb education. But it is clear that despite the Shadow Chancellor's determination to keep the plan alive. Mr Blair was worried about going into the election with an unpopular policy that would have hit Middle England voters.

The manifesto instead pledges that the party will retain child benefit from birth to ló, uprated at least in line with inflation.

Another area where Labour is unclear on policy is over the future of the basic state pension. The party's existing policy is to retain the state pension, uprated with inflation, but backed by a second stakeholder pension. The manifesto repeats this policy but then argues that the whole issue would be reviewed in government.

## Brown admits he may need to sell air traffic system

THE ECONOMY

GORDON BROWN said yesterday that Labour would consider privatising the National Air Traffic System after he was forced to concede that there was a £15 billion hole in his spending plans.

The admission came after Tony Blair was asked what Labour would do about the privatisation money which the Tories had planned to raise in the next two years. He claimed that the money would come which were already under way. But later Mr Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, admitted that this did not apply to the second year, 1998-99.

Asked on BBC Radio 4's The World at One whether there would be a EI's billion gap in 1998-99 if Labour did not raise more money through its own privatisations, Mr Brown said: "Yes, but the Conservatives have not told us where the gap is to be filled."

Asked whether he would privatise the air traffic system, which was expected to raise £12 billion, Mr Brown said: "Well, we have said we will look at this." He added that that privatisation on its own would not raise £12 billion. But asked again whether the air traffic system would have to be sold to fill the gap, he said: "Of course, I haven't ruled that out, and you have got to make a judgment as to whether the revenues you lose

are outwelghed by the capital

returns that you get."
The Tories exploited Labour's admission, claiming that the party had a £12 billion black hole. This includes £60 million from changes to single parent benefit, which Labour has previously said it would repeal.

Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, accused Mr Blair of bowing to the union's tax and spend agenda. "Mr Brown threatens hefty tax rises in an emergency budget within weeks. Why does he need them? Mr Blair wants to keep our plans but not follow policies," said Heseltine."He knows the unions and the Left will stop him bringing in privatisation receipts or reforming social security."

Labour aides later said Mr Brown would consider any privatisations, provided they were "safe". They said that the Tories had to be much clearer about their privatisation receipts before Labour would decide whether to accept them.

The only privatisations which Labour has set its face against are London Underground and Channel 4. but yesterday Mr Brown's aides seemed prepared to consider any sell-offs. They also conceded that they would keep to Tory plans to raise £480 million through private finance in the National Health Service.

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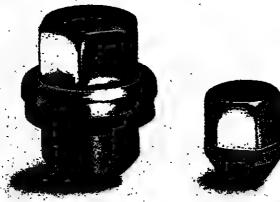
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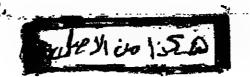
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**INSIDE SECTION** 



#### BUSINESS

Anatole Kaletsky explains why it's too late for Major PAGE 29



## **EDUCATION**

Movie makers focus on the classroom PAGE 40



#### SPORT

How Wembley's cup final ref found sanctuary **PAGES 41-48** 

**TELEVISION** AND **RADIO PAGES** 

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FRIDAY APRIL 4 1997



Finalists of the Veuve Clicquot Business Woman of the Year Award, announced yesterday, include Bridget Blow, of ITnet, left; Andrea Wonfor, Granada Productions; Virginia Lopalco, Pasta Reale; and Sue Lyons, Rolls-Royce Military Aero Engines. The fifth finalist is Nicola Foulston, of Brands Hatch Leisure

# BAe and Lockheed join forces for \$5bn contract

BRITISH AEROSPACE a Lockheed Martin of the US yesterday joined forces to compete for an estimated \$5 billion contract for battlefield reconnaissance vehicles, described as the modern equivalent of the Cavalry's

The contract is a rare example of large-scale collaboration between the US and British defence departments. They decided to pool the contract last year and are expected to order about 1,600 vehicles -- 1,200 for the US Army and the rest for the British Army. The cost of each vehicle comes to more than \$3 million.

GKN, the engineering com-pany, and GEC-Marconi said that they had formed a rival narmership to compete for the

contract, GKN built 789 Warrior infantry-fighting vehicles for the British Army.
It is unlikely that other bidders will emerge because no other British company is

thought to be capable of supplying the technology and integration systems for the highly complex machines. under the name Tracer/FSCS, short for tactical reconnais-

sance armoured combat equipment requirement/future scout cavalry system. In Britain, they would replace the Army's ageing Scorpion and Scimitar vehicles, neither of which proved efficient machines in the Gulf and Bosnian conflicts. A spokesman for Lockheed Martin, America's largest de-

fence company, said that Tracer would be designed to enter the battle theatre ahead of the main battle groups and gather intelligence through digital electronic "sniffing, seeing

> The armoured vehicles, he said, would be fast, fairly small and capable of defending themselves with light guns. "Stealth" technology such as radar-absorbent material and heat shields would be used to make them hard to detect by radar and infra-red

and hearing" systems.

sensors. BAe would contribute the systems integration expertise and some electronics while Lockheed Martin would supply the bulk of the sensors. Vickers, of the UK, and America's General Dynamics Land

Systems, both tank builders. have joined the team.

BAe said that the Joint Requirements Operations Committee of the US and British armies was scheduled to meet soon to hammer out Tracer's technical requirements. An invitation to tender is expected in the autumn. with the production contract being awarded in three or four

Lockheed Martin's Western European division, said: "The programme is the new model for allied government and industry co-operation.

The BAe-Lockheed Martin joint venture is thought to be the largest transatlantic miliand McDonnell Douglas, the

American fighter maker that is now part of Boeing, jointly produced the Harrier jump-je for the US Marines in the

BAe and Lockheed Martin are working on other joint projects, only one of which has been made public. They were hired by Britain's Defence Ministry for a feasibility study on ballistic missile defence

The successful bidder hopes to export the Tracer vehicles to other countries. But the military forces of continental Europe, the natural huvers. have shown no interest in this type of system so far.

Instead, some countries are trying to develop pilotless aircraft for battlefield recon-

## Bank admits rate rise would hurt exporters

EDDIE GEORGE, Governor of the Bank of England, yesterday admitted a rise in interest rates would hurt British exporters but argued that tighter money was necessary because

of the strength of the economy. His remarks to the Foreign Bankers Association in Amsterdam coincided with the first ever survey of Britain's services sector, which suggested that activity is accelerating and that price pressures are

The Report on Services pub-lished by NTC Research and the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply underlined the growing divergence between an extremely buoyant services sector, accounting for nearly two thirds of the British economy, and a much more sluggish performance from

sluggish performance from manufacturing, which is struggling against the headwind of a strong pound.

Mr George yesterday drew attention to this split which he said was "undeniably uncomfortable" for making decisions about monetary policy. He said: "Such policy dilemmas ado arise from time to time. But do arise from time to time. But you cannot reasonably expose the economy as a whole to inflationary risks in order to

protect the tradeable sectors." The Bank has argued for several months that base rates should rise in response to the strength of the domestic economy and despite the sharp appreciation of the pound Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, has stood firm against the advice, arguing that the strength of sterling is hurting manufacturing industry and has proved a powerful defla-

However, yesterday's report on services from purchasing managers provided a warning about inflationary pressures building up in the economy. The institute said service sector activity, already running at a high level over the past nine months, accelerated in March.

It said prices charged by purchasing managers had risen for the fifth consecutive month and further pressure on prices was expected because of a significant increase in service

sector wages, particularly among the highly skilled. The survey excludes retailing because this is covered by the Confederation of British industry. The CBI's latest distributive trades survey, published yesterday, showed the early tinting of Easter had boosted retail sales in March, although the rate of growth was less than retailers had

been expecting. The survey showed that a positive balance of 33 per cent of retailers enjoyed sales growth last month, compared with 24 per cent in February and 27 per cent a year ago. The number of retailers expecting sales to improve in April also edged ahead from 38 per cent to 40 per cent.

The three-monthly measure of sales volumes, which has fallen for the past four months. levelled off at 31 per cent. But average sales growth remains well below the figures seen in the second half of last year.

Economists said the data showed high street sales were enjoying steady but unspectac-ular growth. The retail sales figures, to be published by the Office for National Statistics later this month, are predicted to show more modest growth than in February.

The volume of stocks remained steady suggesting that retailers believe stock levels are adequate and that manufacturers will see only limited benefits from the latest growth

in retail activity.
All sectors of the industry except off-licences reported some growth last month, compared with a year ago, with sales of clothing and footwear especially strong

Pennington, page 27 ate governance guide Economic view, page 29 Pennington, page 27

#### **BUSINESS TODAY**

## STOCK MARKET INDICES

SSS DOLLAR

NORTH SEA OIL Brent 15-day (Jun) \$18.40 (\$18.75)

#### Threadbare

Profits of the top chartered peep through the Georgian doorways of Mayfair reveals rather threadbare looking carpets, not the deep pile traditionally expected from the country's leading partnerships. The big names pull in the fees but not necessarily the profits. Page 26, Tempus 28

#### Stepping back

Commercial Union has been forced to re-instate the practice of asking shareholders to vote on the annual report at the AGM procedure this year. Two institutions, meanwhile, are publishing their own corpor-ate governance guidelines.

## **United Assurance** to shed a third of its workforce

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

UNITED Assurance Group is planning to shed 2,200 jobs, more than a third of its workforce, in the wake of its £1.4 billion merger with Ref-

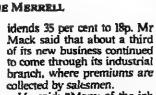
uge Assurance last year. The number is 400 higher than that predicted at the time. The group also plans to cut the number of branches from 279 Profits before exceptional

items at the merged group rose 18 per cent to £193.5 million. Profits before rax including exceptional items rose to £549.3 million, from £171.4 inillion in 1995.

George Mack. United Assurance's group chief executive, said that operating conditions in the insurance market continued to be difficult.

He added: "The integration of the two businesses provides the opportunity to make substantial cost savings." Provisions of £76.3 million have been established for the exe pected integration costs, with the company expecting to save £37 million a year from the

At the moment, United is in consultation with the Department of Trade and Industry about whether to attribute the merger costs to shareholder funds rather than policyholder funds. Earnings per share in 1996 were 36.1p, compared with 36p the previous year. The company increased div-



collected by salesmen. He said: "Many of the job losses will be in this area." The high proportion of industrial branch business contributed to a high expense ratio of about 40 per cent. The company also made a provision of £71 million for

possible mis-selling of personal pensions. Mr Mack said that it had isolated 11,000 cases so far where compensation could be due.

Tempus, page 28



#### Times journalist wins award

ROBERT MILLER, Banking Correspondent of The Times, has won the British Insurance and Investment Brokers Association's consumer journalist of the year award (broadsheet category). Mr Miller, who receives a cheque for £350, also won the Bradford & Bingley's personal finance journalist of the year award last October when The Times was

# UK policyholders to receive free **Colonial shares**

By GAVIN LUMSDEN AND RACHEL BRIDGE

MORE than 250,000 UK policy holders of Colonial, the Australian financial services group that demutualised in December, will receive an average of £1,300 worth of free shares and options when the company lists in May.

The company is distributing 75 million shares to 500,000 members worldwide as part of its A\$1.3 billion (£650 million) plan to float jointly on the Australian and New Zealand stock markets. A further 90,000 UK members will benefit indirectly through their personal pension policies. However, the offer excludes about 80,000 people with unit trust and unit linked pensions.

be 225 shares, worth around £290, mainly to holders of term policies. There is no maximum. The company is selling a further 152.5 million shares priced at £1.30. Qualifying members have until May 2 to decide if they want to retain their original allocation or top it up to 500 shares and lots of 100 thereafter.

An institutional offer will be made in a bookbuilding exercise between May 14 to 16. If the share price falls below the retail offer, Colonial has promised to refund the difference to members.
Colonial's demutualisation

plans began in December 1994 after its acquisition of the State Bank. It intends to raise £100 million from the flotation with which it will buy out Jardine Fleming's 50 per cent stake in its Asian joint venture.

The shares will be denominated in Australian dollars, Colonial said: "We are trying to make everyone fully aware that it is not easy holding foreign shares. We want them to be aware that it will be more difficult for them than holding shares in BT, for example. There is a foreign

exchange risk." British pension funds have indicated that they will be selling their 78 million shares. Individual UK shareholders will be able to sell their shares prior to listing through a clearing facility arranged by

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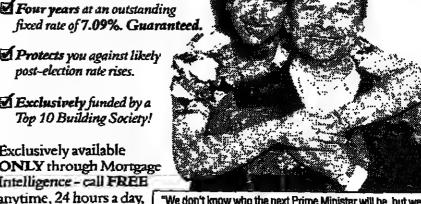
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YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECLIRED ON IT, Guidt subject to upp, shours 8 subjects. Toward 1977 4% Abstracted secretary the presenting 2 could broken up to process the formal formal process. Funds conducted at fining of poing to process.

## Rank to create 7,500 jobs By Alasdair Murray

named personal finance nat-

ional newspaper of the year.

RANK GROUP is to spend El,5 billion over the next five years, creating around 7,500 jobs in the process of expandng its UK leisure interests.

The company is aiming to open around 40 sites a year as it develops its leading brands. such as the Mecca bingo clubs. Rank is already the largest leisure company in the UK, with 300 bingo clubs, 74 Odeons, 31 Grosvenor casinos and 51 nightclubs.

David Flowers, director of the new leisure property and development department, said the company is targeting sites for 60 more bingo clubs, 15 casinos, 30 cinemas, 25 nightclubs and 50 theme bars.

Money will also be used to upgrade existing sites. The new department will be seeking to invest about £300 million a year. It will be based within the leisure division headquarters in Maidenhead.

Berkshire. Rank said some 350 jobs will be lost when the division moves in the summer. Rank is aiming to open ten new Hard Rock Cafes this

The minimum handout will

year and is selling off its remaining 20 per cent stake in Rank Xerox, for around £930 million. The shares rose 70 to 430 2 p, with the market anticipating that Rank will soon launch a share buy-back.

Pennington, page 27

#### Lyonnaise welcomes plans for merger

FROM ADAM SAGE IN FARIS

JEROME MONOD, the chairman of Lyonnaise des Eaux, the French utilities group, yesterday welcomed plans for a merger with Cie de Suez, as an

excellent project.

M Monod swept aside market doubts about a tieup that would represent one of France's biggest financial transactions in recent years.

Announcing a net attributable profit of Fri.35 billion for 1996, Lyonnaise, which owns the UK water companies, Northumbrian, Essex and Suffolk, and has interests in water treatment and waste management in Britain, said that its board was unanimously in favour of combining with Suez.

Suez, the Paris-based holding company, said on Tuesday that its board had approved the principle of a merger. Both boards will discuss the terms on April

M Monod said: "This is an excellent project which alms to create a worldwide group of local services. Our perspectives will be enlarged by the merger and we will reach the critical size demanded by the markets.

M Monod believes Suez. which has financial assets estimated at Fr34 billion and a cash pile estimated at Fr5 billion, can provide the funds he needs to compete with his bigger rival, Générale des Eaux.

The conglomerate that would emerge from the tieup would be one of France's top ten com-panies with an annual turnover of about Fr195

Analysts in Paris say the that deal appears to make industrial sense although doubts persist over the details of the transaction.

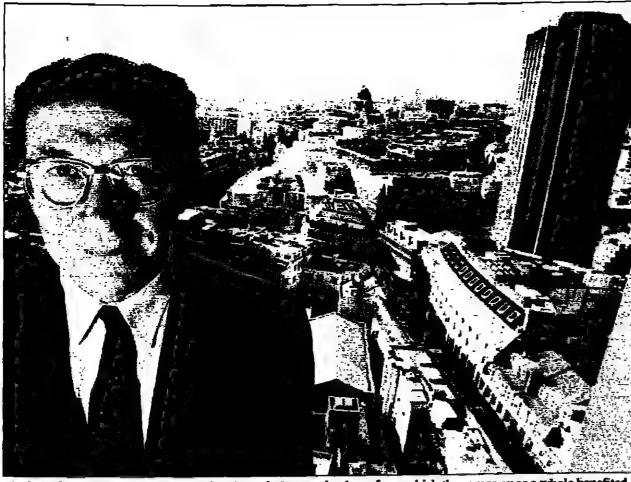
If Suez agrees to a demand from Saint-Gobain, one of its largest shareholders, for Fr3.4 billion payment, its cash pile would be eroded, making it less attractive to

EVERY

WEEKDAY,

THE BIG

PICTURE,



And Jacobs, chairman, said Barings had brought in extra business from which the company as a whole benefited

# Surveyors to give estimates of their profits for first time

THE profits of Britain's big commercial surveying part-nerships are being disclosed for the first time this week. A league table published tomorrow by Estates Gazette, the commercial property magazine, will rank the top property agents according to their earnings and profits, but a peep behind the Georgian doorways in Mayfair reveals that

By GEORGE SIVELL

PEACOCK, the family company that runs

Milletts, the country and casual wear

chain, is to be bought out by its manage-

ment for £78 million in a deal financed by

the carpet is looking a bit threadbare in many firms. The Estates Gazette 100 shows the big names pulling in the lion's share of fee income but not necessarily the profits to match. Jones Lang Wootton, a partnership, ranks in third place with UK fee income of ESI million. Its accounting profit last year was

£105 million.

among 120 partners. Chesterton International and DTZ Debenham Thorpe both earned fee income of £60 million or more but produced less profit. The 86 partners of Richard

Ellis managed to earn profits of only between £1 million and £2 million on £33 million of

Management buyout at Peacock

177 Peacock stores and 59 Milletts stores

to a nationwide chain of 500 stores. Sales

by the whole Peacock group in 1996-97

are expected to have risen 33 per cent to

The business was founded as Pea-

ners who generated more than £4 million from a similar fee base. The weakest performance disclosed among the top 20 firms was Weatherall Green & Smith. Its 60 partners are sharing a profit of less than £500,000 on some £25

million in fee income. High overheads, expensive offices, competition and the cost of professional indemnity

appointment of Richard Kirk, the former

Iceland managing director, as chief executive in August 1996. Mr Peacock

will now become a non-executive deputy

chairman after the management buyout.

Cinven said: "Peacock's recent track

insurance are all hurting profits. Unsurprisingly, firms with fewer mouths to feed make more money. Strutt & Parker, with only 31 partners, prod-uced profits of more than £4 million on £23 million in fees. Helen Pearce, Editor of Est-

ING helped

to 25% rise

by Barings

ING, the Dutch banking and

insurance group that owns Barings, yesterday unveiled a 25 per cent increase in annual

net profits to 3.3 billion guil-

And Jacobs, chairman of ING, said ING Barings had

contributed pre-tax profits of

£45.4 million to overall group

profits. He added that Barings had also brought in extra business from which the com-

The total amount invested in

Barings since ING rescued it

for a nominal El two years ago

and cleared the £830 million

debt mountain was about £757

million, Mr Jacobs said. For

this financial year ING has set

its worldwide subsidiaries, in-

cluding ING Barings, a target

of an 11 per cent return on

Mr Jacobs also announced

that Hessel Lindenbergh, who

took the helm immediately

after Barings was bought, was

to return to The Netherlands in

July after doing "a fantastic job". He will be replaced by

capital invested.

pany as a whole benefited.

ders (EL3 billion).

ates Gazette, said: "The lean and mean firms, where partners do without big support and have cost-effective offices make the most money." Corporate clients are increasingly benchmarking their service providers, pushing surveyors into become more open, she said.

Some firms, notably Healey & Baker, Gerald Eve and Gooch & Wagstaff refused to disclose their UK revenues, despite calls for more openness from the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

Tempus, page 28

## record is extremely impressive, and we believe that there is substantial growth Cinven, the equity funding group. Cinven is also to provide the financial cock's Penny Bazaar in 1882. The present chairman is Robert Peacock, although he Lvonnaise. yet to come from the business." backing necessary to expand the chain of has played a more limited role since the

#### Westpac defies bid warning

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

WESTPAC, one of Australia's biggest banks, delied a Government warning not to preempt a major report into the banking sector yesterday with a A\$1.4 billion (£667 million) agreed bid for the Bank of Melbourne, a regional bank.

Less than two weeks ago Peter Costello, Treasurer, warned the banks not to make any commercial decisions before the Government re-sponds to the imminent Wallis report, which is expected to relax the restrictions on mergers and takeovers in the financial sector.

Unveiling the proposals, Robert Joss, Westpac manag-ing director, said: "This announcement is a significant milestone related to our aim of being the best in Australia and New Zealand." However, Mr Costello said

the deal had not yet been given approval. They've taken a commercial judgement, they do so at their own risk. I make it clear that they shouldn't presume any outcome."

#### French to decide on **GEC** bid

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

THE FRENCH Government will name the bidders for Thomson-CSF, the defence electronics operation being privatised by France. on Monday amid specula-tion over whether GEC will enter the race.

GEC, the diversified industrial group, is believed to have submitted a bid for the French business in opposition to Alcatel-Alsthom, the French group with which GEC has a partnership.

Lagardere, the French group that has a missiles partnership with British Aerospace, is also bidding for the 58 per cent stake in Thomson-CSF to be sold next month. The French Government

has said that it is keen to welcome foreign bidders, al-though industry observers believe that GEC will have to offer a very full price in order to win. It is possible, however, that GEC will secure a place in a potential consortium for the order by putting itself on the bidding list.

INDUSTRIAL CONSUSSPONDENT

strong performance from Fairway Packaging, which it bought last year for £3 million. Dolphin's turnover was £39.2 million (£33.4 million) and earnings per share 15.4p (9.17p). A final dividend of 4.5p (3.3p) will be paid on May 20, raising the total dividend by 35 per cent to 7p (5.2p).

## Rugby Estates ahead

(£1.05 million). Rugby's performance was helped by the recent

#### Dagenham Motors up

DAGENHAM MOTORS. Britain's largest Ford dealership group, recovered from a disappointing first half last year by lifting profits slightly from ES.11 million to ES.12 million for the year to December 31. The group was helped by a reorganisation of its car sales division which saw a 5 per count reduction in staff and a 9 per count broader to count reduction in staff and a 9 per cent boost in sales to £291.9 million. Earnings per share fell 5.5 per cent to 13.6p. An unchanged final dividend of 5.5p will be paid on May 29, maintaining the total at 7.7p.

### Airbus sees euro as ally against Boeing FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN TOULOUSE

BOEING fears that European monetary union will threaten America's dominant position in the aerospace sector, according to Airbus.

The European consortium, whose partners include British Aerospace, is confident the euro will become an international reserve currency equiv-alent to the dollar. All aviation sales worldwide are currently denominated in dollars. An Airbus spokesman said:

Boeing is scared witless of the euro. They might have to start denominating sales in euros rather than dollars."

Selling aircraft in euros would shift the burden of hedging against exchange rate movements from Airbus to Boeing. At the moment, British Aerospace and the other Airbus partners spend mil-

CHANGING TIMES

lions every year on dollar futures to smooth currency fluctuations.

In a bid to surpass Boeing as the world's leading aero-space company, Airbus will double production over the next three years. Last year it produced 125 aircraft. The number will increase to 180 this year and to 220 in 1998, the consortium said.

Airbus executives in Toulouse are currently preparing an aggressive sales push into Boeing's traditional markets. In 2001 they will launch the biggest Airbus aircraft so far, the A340-600, seating 380

उटा श्रुवा ३, Two years later Airbus will unleash the A3XX super jumbo, which can carry almost twice as many people as the

#### BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## Zeneca chief's pay up 38% to £898,000

ZENECA'S chief executive saw his pay climb at more than twice the rate of group earnings in 1996. The pharmaceutical company's annual report, published yesterday, revealed that Sir David Barnes earned £898,000 in salary, bonus and other benefits, up 38 per cent from £651,000 in 1995. This compares with the group's 15 per cent rise in pre-tax profit, to £l billion.

Zeneca, however, has been one of the stock market's top perf. ormers. In 1996, the shares rose 31 per cent to £16.47 against the 11.6 per cent rise of the FT-SE 100 index. Fuelled by takeover speculation and the launch of several promising products, they have since risen further, although yesterday they closed down 15p at £17.2712. Sir David, 65, has some 270,000 share options. most of them with an exercise price of 607p. John Mayo, Zeneca's finance director, was the second-highest paid director. with a pay package that rose 22 per cent to £611,000.

#### Berkeley sells portfolio

BERKELEY GROUP, the UK housebuilder and property developer, has sold a portfolio of commercial investment properties for £103 million. The consideration represents an initial yield of 7.6 per cent. The portfolio of 23 properties, comprising a mixture of retail warehouse parks, leisure properties, industrial warehouses and offices, was sold an unnamed UK life fund. The profit on the disposal amounts to E5.5 million. Part of the proceeds will go towards repaying bank debt and subordinated shareholder loans.

### Coca-Cola bottling deal

COCA-COLA AMATIL, the Australian Coca-Cola franchisee, became the largest Coca-Cola bottling group outside the US with the acquisition of San Miguel's soft drinks operation. Coca-Cola Bottlers Philippines Inc (CCBPI), for A\$3.4 billion (about £1.62 billion). CCBPI, which is 70 per cent owned by San Miguel and 30 per cent owned by The Coca-Cola Company, is the leading soft drink company in the Philippines. Under the deal, Coca-Cola Amatil will issue 293 million new shares to San Miguel, giving it a 25 per cent stake in the enlarged group.

### Hyder motorway venture

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HYDER, the water and electricity company, will take a leading role in managing and maintaining Finland's first privately funded motorway. Hyder is the largest shareholder in the winning Nelostie Oy Consortium that will operate Finland's main motorway between Heisinki and the tourist region of Lahti for 15 years. Hyder with 43 per cent, is investing £2.5 million in the venture. The contract involves upgrading 70 kilometres of road by constructing two new carriageways. Work begins next month.

#### Oliver back in black

OLIVER GROUP, the shoe retailer, returned to the black with pre-tax profits of £3.12 million in the 57 weeks to February 1, compared with losses of £5.71 million in the previous 12 months. Earnings were 12.32p a share, against losses of 22.61p. But there is again no dividend. The group has closed 18 of its stores and has relocated its headquarters after a year of difficult trading. There was a 7 per cent fall in turnover from E75 million to E69.7 million. The shares remained unchanged at 30p.

#### Schneider deserts Sema

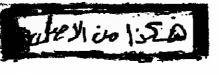
SEMA, the Anglo-French computer services group, has lost its second-largest shareholder. Schneider SA, a French electrical company, dumped its 5.31 per cent stake on Tuesday, releasing 5.92 million shares into the market. The placing had no impact on Sema's share price on the day, but its shares fell 384p to £13.01 yesterday as it emerged that Schneider had sold for £12.95 a share. Pierre Bonelli, Sema's chief executive, said the company had agreed to the sale

### **Dolphin lifts payout**

DOLPHIN PACKAGING, manufacturer of flip-top hamburger containers and sandwich packs, increased its pre-tax profits 63.5 per cent to £5.38 million (£3.29 million) for the year ended December 31. The company was helped by a

RUGBY ESTATES, the retail property company, reported an 18 per cent rise in its pro forma net assets per share, from 130p to 153p, for the year to December 31. The company also reported a 125 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £2.37 million purchase of a 13,000 sq ft building in Covent Garden for £3.8 million by Covent Garden Estates, Rugby's 50 per cent-owned subsidiary. Earnings per share were 8.7p (4p). A final dividend of 1.6p (1.45p), due on June 4, gives a 2.4p (2.17p) total.





LIKE Caesar's wife, Britain's insurers and fund managers

have to be cleaner than Hyacinth

Bucket's bathroom when it

comes to corporate governance.

So it is pretty embarrassing for

refuse to adopt the accounts, what happens? There is no legal

requirement for the accounts to be adopted before coming into

force, so there is no legal come-back if the vote goes against approval. De facto, the vote has

all the penetration of the English

In the case of CU, as with many of our leading companies,

most shareholders will not have

seen the accounts they are voting

to adopt. CU has more than 58,000 shareholders, 95 per cent

of whom own fewer than 5,000

shares and a third of whom have

bowling attack.

The state of the s ling the vote on adopting its report and accounts at its annual shareholders' meeting. CU has had to recant - too late for this year, but the vote will be there next year. But it is hard to to have sympathy for the insurer's argument. What does the vote to adopt or receive the report and accounts actually mean? After all it is not a vote to ortfolio, approve the report and accounts, as they have already been approved by the board of directors and auditors. If shareholders

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dable

☐ Commercial Union's about-turn ☐ Interest jolt for Chancellor ☐ Rank's salesman repeats his pitch

# Pointless vote has a point

Commerical Union to be caught tramping across the kitchen floor no more than £3,500 invested in in dirty weilingtons by cancelthe insurer. CU sends these smaller investors an abreviated version of the accounts, keeping in the information CU reckons is relevent and dispensing with the boring detail beloved by pedants and financial journalists. This saves the insurer money and it appears people are more likely to read these abbreviated accounts. rather as we will all read the tenpoint plan in the Labour Mani-

festo and skim the rest.

So why not get rid of a pointless vote, where most of the participants have no idea what they are voting about? The answer is rooted is symbolism. It is the ideal way to register dissent. In the US, the giant Californian fund manager. CALPers, tells companies it is unhappy about their strategy, remuneration policy or whatever by voting against the re-election of directors. Most UK fund managers are far too timid to take such action, preferring to write a strong letter or make their views known in a private meeting. But voting against the adoption of the report and ac-

counts can register this dissent

publicly without actually causing any damage to the company. Like Wisden's attack on the English cricket establishment, it has no direct effect but is likely to bring change anyway.

Now that Hermes and Standard Life are leading the way by publishing their corporate governance guidelines, British industry knows what the investing community wants. By voting against this apparently meaningless resolution put forward every year, shareholders can show their unhappiness with industry if it trangresses and the corporate governance debate might actually move forward.

#### Services help Eddie not Ken

THE lack of information on Britain's key services sector, accounting for an astounding 76 per cent of British jobs, has long been a lamentable lacuna in the picture of the economy available to our policymakers. So three cheers for the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply and NTC Research that yesterday PENNINGTON



published the first-ever survey on activity in service industries. Given the growing importance of services to the British econ-omy, it is fairly astonishing that there has been so little statistical

or survey evidence available until now. It is a rich irony, given the Conservative Party's current election campaign boast that Britain is Booming, that those industries which provide some justification for the claim, are virtually untouched by the official statistical service. And why? Because the assiduous men and women of the Office for National Statistics were forced to abandon plans for a monthly index of service sector activity because of lack of money. It should still be noted that

virtually no other country provides much in the way of statistics on service industries and even the National Association of Purchasing Managers in America has not yet got around to issuing its own report on services despite the long and distinguished history of its report on manufacturing, an indicator greatly favoured by no less a figure than Alan Greenspan. Our very own Chartered Institute, representing Britain's

purchasing managers, can there-fore be fairly described as world leaders in the field. The findings of their first report yesterday happen to be exactly what most economists had expected. Services are booming, skills shortages and price pressures are intensifying. In other words, this report provides the starkest contrast with manufacturing in which activity and pricing power are being held back by the pound's strength.

The implication for policy is clear. Kenneth Clarke has long justified his fight against Bank of England demands for higher interest rates by citing the weak-ness of manufacturing. But the

will make it more difficult for him, or his successor, to maintain this stance.

#### Many a Teare has to fall

A GOOD salesman can sell you something you already have, often at a higher price than you bought it for in the first place, and make you grateful for the opportunity of being able to purchase it again. Andrew Teare clearly thinks he is a good salesman, flogging the idea of Rank spend-ing £1.5 billion over five years for. maybe, the third time. But his

sales patter is wearing thin.
Teare arrived in a blaze of glory, having been the man who "turned around" English China Clays. But it soon emerged that his initiatives had left Cornwall's leading company in a muddy slurry and Teare was far from the wunderkind he was cracked up to be.

At Rank he trumpeted a dis-posal programme, which he now says is largely over, having real-ised just £300 million. Earlier this week Teare hinted, for

maybe the fourth or fifth time, that he is about to sell the remaining 20 per cent stake in Rank Xerox, the photocopier venture. But yesterday he was backtracking quickly, saying Rank was merely "preparing the ground" for the El billion disposal.

For all the sales patter, Rank's problem is clear. It has a great portfolio of leisure assets that it does not work hard enough. While investing in new night clubs, theme bars and cinemas is all well and good, somehow Rank does not appear to get the same sort of returns on these investments that its rivals achieve. What the group needs is not a salesman but a solid. leisure operator. And is not that nice John Conlan about to take his leave of First Leisure in the near future?

#### **Entente Cordiale?**

POOR old Mike Greenlees. No sooner has the chief executive of GGT Group completed the 1123 million purchase of BDDP than he finds his opposite number at the French advertising agency, Jean-Marie Dru, advocating a policy of "disruption". He apparently means challenging strategic conventions. But with GGT shares below where they were before it bought BDDP, this does not sound promising.

# Compuserve in \$1bn talks with **America Online**

From Richard Thomson in New York

COMPUSERVE, the ailing computer online service company, is in merger talks with America Online, its larger rival, that could result in a deal worth about \$1 billion.

H&R Block, Compuserve's owner, has confirmed that the company is discussing a possible "business combination". With 2.2 million subscribers in Europe and 3.1 million in the US, Compuserve is the largest online and internet access service outside North\_America. A merger with AOL would create an online leviathan with 60 per cent of the market

RETREAT from the trou-

bled car market in Germany has ensured a

return to growth for Laird Group, which returned

record profits for 1996 after

a resurgence in its second

half (Fraser Nelson writes).

move had belped to lift

The company said the

overall pre-tax profits to 12p.

AOL and Microsoft, with stagin the US, leaving Microsoft's nating revenues. AOL, how-ever, has been a victim of its online service launched a year ago as the only key rival.

Analysts say AOL is likely to pay about \$1 billion for Compuserve in shares. AOL shares are worth about \$44.50: Compuserve has plunged from its flotation price of \$30 a year ago to \$9.80 as its competitive position has steadily deteriorated.

The merger would solve problems that have built up for both companies recently. Compuserve has failed to add significant numbers of new customers, losing ground to

£66.6 million (£66.1 mil-

lion). The soaring pound had cost £600,000, adding

to a £1 million loss from

disposals and an operating

loss of £1.6 million from its

A final dividend of 8.1p.

due June 6, lifts the year's

total to 13p from 12p. Tempus, page 28

conveyor belt businesses.

Laird switch pays off

to access the service because of crowded telephone lines and computer space. AOL also wants to expand overseas where Compuserve, which was launched years before AOL, has always had a lead. A merger would expand both AOL's computer infrastructure and its overseas subscriber base. However, some analysts see more problems arising for AOL because Compuserve, which is losing money, would damage AOL's finances. They say it is unlikely that all Compuserve's sub-scribers would agree to switch to AOL, so the larger company would end up paying too much for the acquisition. The deal could face antitrust prob-

success with its 8 million

subsrcibers finding it harder

lems regarding market share. Some analysts said that one of the regional telephone companies may be tempted to bid for Compuserve as a way of expanding its telecoms services and finding a way into the internet access industry.



Andrew Parrish, chief executive, right, and Terry Garthwaite, finance director, see excellent opportunities for growth

## Senior to step up acquisitions

BY CHRIS AYRES

SENIOR ENGINEERING, the specialist engineering company whose customers include Ford, Boeing and Nasa, is poised to make a series of acquisitions, according to Andrew Parrish, the new chief executive.

Mr Parrish, who joined Senior from Williams Holdings in January, said: "Last year was too light on acquisitions.

We have a very clear agenda for this year. In Flexonics, in particular, Senior has an outstanding business with excellent opportunities for substantial growth."

Mr Parrish said the company wanted to increase its presence in Asia and may also make bolt-on acquisitions for its engineered products and services division. Senior yesterday reported that pre-tax profits in the year to December 31 fell to

£2.68 million from £22.13 million after

September 1997.

one-off charges of £29.3 million for the sale of the thermal engineering division. Underlying pre-tax profits rose 38 per cent to E31.5 million (£22.8 million) and turnover was also up, from £372.1 million to £439.5 million.

Earnings per share, before exceptionals, grew 10.6 per cent to 7.64p (6.91p). Senior has increased its total dividend to 3.82p (3.6p) with a final 2.38p

#### Littlewoods to dispose of 14 stores overseas

BY PAUL DURMAN

LITTLEWOODS, which recently decided to put its UK stores chain up for sale, is now seeking buyers for its 14 stores in Russia and India.

The international operation, begun as a trial in 1991, is thought to have sales of less than £10 million, a tiny fraction of the group's annual turnover of about £2 billion. The single store in India, in Bangaiore, was opened only last year. Although sales have grown rapidly, the stores are

still loss-making.

Mike Wynne, managing director of Littlewoods International, said the Russian and Indian businesses had reached a stage where they needed substantial investment to develop further. With Littlewoods deciding to con centrate on its home shopping and football pools activities, it is no longer appropriate to continue supporting the inter-

national business. Littlewoods has four stores in St Petersburg and franchises in another nine Russian cities. Littlewoods International employs 320 people in Russia, 120 in Bangalore and 15 in the UK. The group has 135 stores in

the UK and hopes to raise more than £500 million from

### Headlam aims for Boots to sell 30% market share BY PAUL DURMAN HEADLAM, the fast-growing its and £50.9 million of sales

carpet wholesaler, has set its from last year's four acquisi-sights on grabbing a 30 per tions. The revival in the houssights on grabbing a 30 per cent share of the market dealing with independent retailers.

The company, which yesterday reported annual pre-tax profits almost 50 per cent higher at £11.6 million, has revised its original target of a 25 per cent market share. Since Graham Waldron, chairman, and Ian Kirkham, chief executive, arrived in 1991. a series of acquisitions has turned Headlam into Britain's largest floorcoverings distrib-utor. It now claims 23 per cent of the market.

ing market helped the ongoing floorcovering business to increase its operating profit 26 per cent to £5.8 million on sales 14 per cent higher at

£85,9 million. Headlam's soft furnishing division found the demand for curtains and upholstery fabrics less buoyant. Sales of fabric by the continuing business grew 7 per cent to £44.5 million, while profits increased 9 per cent to £3.8 Headlam intends to pay a

final dividend of 4.35p on July

#### Nurofen in Russia

FROM SARAH CUNNINGHAM IN MOSCOW

BOOTS Healthcare International, part of the Boots retail

and manufacturing group, is to invest between £9 million and £10 million on promoting its Nurofen painkiller in Rossia. Nurofen is the first

ibuprofen painkiller to be launched in Russia. Boots aims to secure market leader ship ahead of the arrival of Advil the bestselling Ameri can brand, expected next year. Boots, which is targeting only well-off consumers, does not intend to open shops or factories in the region.

Last frontier, page 29

#### NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

#### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

#### FOR FULL OPERATING CONCESSION OF LAHORE - ISLAMABAD MOTORWAY

Lahore-Islamabed Motorway including Lahore bypass is a 350 KM long, 6 lanes divided, access control tolled Motorways, constructed at the cost of Rs. 35.92 billion. The Motorway connects Lahore (Capital of Punjab Province) with the Federal Capital of Pakistan i.e. Islamabad. The Motorway will be ready for commissioning on 1st

It is intended by the National Highway Authority to give full operating concession of this Motorway to the private enterprise for an agreed term during which he will be responsible for toll collection, operation/management as well as the maintenance of the toll collection facilities and the Motorway itself. The maintenance will include routine and periodic maintenance of the Motorway. The term specified for this concession is 15 years after which the Motorway will be handed over to the National Highway Authority at pre agreed level of service. (National Highway Authority is seeking expressions of interest for both full operation of the motorway by a private enterprise and operation of the motorway on National Highway Authority's behalf by a management consultant. It is intended to enter into an agreement for one option only after receipt of bids.)

The interested parties are requested to submit their expression of interest, which will include Company's profile and experience in the field of toll operations, management and maintenance of project of such magnitude. In case of joint ventures a combined statement shall be submitted for the purpose of evaluation.

The operating concession company/JV shall submit the following with the relevant proof of their capabilities.

- 1. Financial statement alongwith the statement as to how they will raise/generate resources to manage, operate and maintain the Lahore-Islamabad Motorway.
- 2. Statement of their capabilities and experience of similar services they have so far rendered any where in the world.
- 3. Statement of interest and reasons why they should be considered for prequalification to participate in this operating concession.

The broad guideline for the submission of proposals shall be issued to the qualified Companies/JV only. All interested parties/JVs are requested to submit their expression of interest to the undersigned on or before 20th April 1997.

The National Highway Authority reserve the right to reject any or all submissions without assigning any reasons thereof. Altaf Ahmad Chaudhry

Member Motorway **National Highway Authority** 33. Queens Centre, Queens Road, Lahore Tel. (042) 7572903



#### The latest results include 7. which will increase the total £3.7 million of operating prof- 21 per cent to 5.8p a share. IMI continues expansion

IMI, the engineering group. has made its third big acquisition in four months. It has agreed to buy TA Hydronics, a radiator valve manufacturer. for £77 million.

IMI shares rose 10p to 387p on news of the purchase, which will be funded through borrowings. Alan Emson. finance director, said the company would have ideally liked more time to digest its other two acquisitions.

He said: "It has been like waiting for the Number Five bus; you wait for hours and then three come along at once. But we did not want to wait with this deal; TA is the best in this business and it makes an ideal fit with the rest of our operations. TA's markets are growing very quickly. People



Emson: Swedish acquisition

are very energy conscious in Scandinavia, and there are signs that this is coming through to the rest of Europe." TA. based in Sweden, produces valves that regulate the distribution of heat through

blocks. The company says the system normally pays for itself within two years through efficiency savings. In 1996, it made a pre-tax profit of £9.4 million on sales of £67 million. Three quarters

of its profits come from exports, with Austria an especially large market.

IMI plans to use TA's

customer base to market its own products in Scandinavia, where TA is the market leader. IMI is expected to start producing TA's peripheral products, such as pipe connectors. in other factories but no job

losses are expected. IMI bought Heimeier, Germany's largest radiator valve manufacturer, last year for £134 million. Mr Emson said IMI was unlikely to make any more large buys for some time.



## Wall Street continues to cast shadow over London

FURTHER losses on Wall Street in the wake of Wednesday's 90-point setback for the Dow Jones industrial average left share prices in London nursing fresh falls.

Attempts to steady the mar-ket met with only limited success as the FT-SE 100 index lost further ground in late trading to end 22.0 down at 4,214.6 in thin conditions. Further volatility can be ex-pected today ahead of the US payroll numbers, which could provide the signal for another rise in US interest rates.

By the close of business a meagre 806 million shares had changed hands. Much of this was made up of bed-andbreakfast transactions designed to establish tax losses ahead of the financial yearend later today.

The losses might have been greater had it not been for a strong performance from the utilities. It seems worries about a windfall tax being imposed by an incoming Labour government have been put on the backburner, while their defensive qualities continue to be sought in a failing market. Credit Lyonnais Laing and Panmure Gordon reckon that a windfall tax has already been factored into prices. Laing says they look cheap and should be bought.

Leading the charge were the power generators, where National Power put on 17'2p at 496'2p, and PowerGen 16'2p

Angelos Anastasiou at Panmure rates PowerGen as a "buy", claiming it represents good value for money, boasts a strong balance sheet and cash flows and should be able to deal comfortably with a windfall tax. Continued economic growth would lead to increased demand for electricity.

Laing also sees BG, 212p better at 167p. and Centrica, 1120 lighter at 6034,0 with National Grid, lp firmer at 20812p, Southern Electric, lp dearer at 38812p, and Scottish Hydro, 212p better at 36412p. as "key buys".

In the water sector, Severa Trent stood out with a rise of 11p to 69812p, while gains were also recorded in Thames Water, 612p to 66612p, and South West Water, op to 671p.

prices in the US were rising spilled over into BOC Green Sp better at 94012p. Praxair in the US has increased the price of both carbon dioxide and hydrogen by 4 per cent and 7



The famous gongman will stay at Rank, up 94p at 4364p

per cent respectively. Now brokers expect BOC, one of the big players in the marketplace, to follow suit.

Rank Organisation continued to benefit from this week's sale of its film distribution unit to Carlton Communications for £65 million with a rise of 912p to 43612p. But the deal did not include the "gong-man" who has provided the

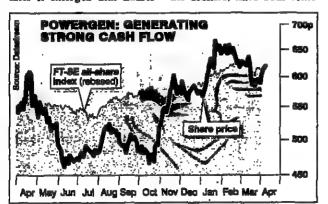
Lewis, ex-Blenheim Exhibitions man, had snapped up a near 30 per cent stake in the company belonging to United Coatings, its biggest share-holder. Only last month Cementone announced United Coatings was in talks to sell the 34 per cent stake. It is hoped that Lewis can achieve the sort of results with Cementone that he did with

One of the best performances came from Drew Scientific, where brokers are increasingly excited about the group's process for detecting heart disease. Drew ended 53p higher at 162'ap and has more than trebled in the past two weeks after a share placing at 52p. Word is that the shares still have further to go.

opening sequence for Rank films since 1935. This latest disposal formed part of Rank's £300 million restructuring programme, which has now been completed. Lehman Brothers, the US securities house, says the disposal is earnings enhancing and it remains a firm buver.

Speculative buying lifted Cementone 1312p to 6012p after it emerged that Laurie Blenheim. Anthony Chattwell has resigned as a director of

Better than expected profits news and some encouraging comments about current trading lifted Laird Group 4412p to 389p. Worries about the impact of a strong pound were swept to one side. ABN Amro Hoare Govett and Societé Generale Strauss Turmbull, the brokers, have both come



tions and others are expected to lift their forecasts.

Sema Group dropped 3812p to £13.0112 after Schneider, the French electrical group, sold its 5.31 per cent stake in the market. The 5.92 million shares were sold to various institutions by HSBC James Capel, the broker, at £12.95. Pierre Bonelli, chief executive of Sema, said the disposal had the full backing of his board and would improve liquidity

in the shares.

Airtours fell 38p to 92312p after reports that Carnival Corporation, its biggest share-holder with almost 30 per cent. had decided against raising its stake in the company.

The profits setback at Se pior Engineering was even worse than first imagined, but that did not discourage market bulls, with the price clos-ing 812p better at 12412p.

Brokers were also pleased with Dolphin Packaging, which showed pre-tax profits up from £3.29 million to £5.38 million. The shares responded with a jump of 15p to 2221 ap. Headlam fell 9p to 3091 ap despite a healthy increase in profits and a strong start to trading in the current year.

But there was little to chee for shareholders of A H Ball Group, with the price dropping 7p to 251ap on the news that it had traded at a small loss in the second half and was unlikely to pay a dividend for the year to March. The group reported a surplus of £170,000 in the first six months.

☐ GILT-EDGED: Prices fluctuated in narrow limits for much of the day as investors anxiously awaited today's farm. payroll numbers for signs of growing inflationary pressures. It is feared that last week's quarter-point rise in US rates could soon be followed by further increases.

The June series of the long gilt was £316 lower at £1081332 modest trading that saw 38,000 contracts completed. Treasury 8 per cent 2015 was £932 lower at £1014s and Treasury 8 per cent 2000 a tick off at £lÔ2<sup>8</sup>32. NEW YORK: Shares trad-

ed lower in the morning, depressed by a sell-off in IBM and concern about today's figures. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 44.56 points at 6,472.44. at Liffe, the Liffe options quoted refer to those of April 2.

	(
	New York (midday): Dow Jones 6472-44 (-44.50) S&P Composite 748.86 (-1.25)
	Tokyo: Nikkei Average 18129.31 (+02.01)
	Hong Kong: Hang Seng 12055.17 (-81.15)
)	Amsterdam: EOE Index
	Sydney: 2361.0 (+5.6)
	Frankfurt: 3215.24 (-86.67)
	Singapore: 2078.08 (-11.73)
a- ed	Brussels General 11632.06 (-125.65)

MAJOR INDICES

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155.0 Feb (2.7%) Jan 1987=100

RPIX ...... 154.5 Feb (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

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Cliveden n/p (75)

SEVILLE GOLDON 17 (22) 4
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FALLS:

146p (-18p) 180p (-11p) Asperi Coms 848p (-19'ap) 523'ap (-10p) . 579p (-10p) Closing Prices Page 31

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES **DOLLAR RATES** 11.74-11.75 ... 34.43-34.47 1.3858-1.3853 6.3610-6.3630 5.6202-5.6212 1.8678-1.6682 7.7472-7.7482 1.5782-1.5792

## **TEMPUS**

## Widows and orphans

AFTER all the fuss from institutions about the orphan assets (or fantasy funds, if you believe its directors), the merged United Friendly/Refuge Assurance bosses probably felt more than usually compelled to produce a little extra in the full-year results by hacking away at the core business.

A huge reduction in branch offices, from 279 to 116, should enable United to streamline the collection of premiums and marketing of insurance products. United's big task is to convert its market of low-income households from a weekly cash collection to the cheaper mechanism of bank direct debits but this quaint business has attractions. It is a large market; in marketing terms "Cs" and "Ds" outnumber the affluent As and Bs pursued aggressively by other insurers and the antique collection process establishes a high level of customer loyalty. Better still, it is a market almost ignored by the big insurers. Steady business flow and cost-cutting make United a great yield play; appropriately, a widows and orphans stock. But United reckons the risk of the merger (and the benefits) should accrue to shareholders, not policyholders. By creating a service company, United could ringience the £76 million cost of the merger and let shareholders gain 100 per cent of the cost savings. United argues that policyholders would benefit by being spared the risks and costs of the merger. Clearly, they could be spared the costs by allocating the entire £76 million burden to United's shareholders but, if the merger produces worse investment management than they previously enjoyed, the policyholders will not be spared

#### Laird

LAIRD has emerged from the wreckage of the European automotive industry with fewer wounds than it was nursing at half-time. Six months ago, the tale was of a dire German market and lacklustre resuits elsewhere Profits from its escape route

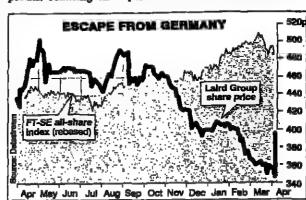
— computer assembly came too little, too late.

The transformation has been breathtaking. While the sores that defaced the interim results have not entirely healed, they look less painful. Germany is still de-pressed, but Laird is in full flight from the country, cutting its 2,500-strong automotive workforce by some 40 per cent. Meanwhile, it has been following its customers into the lower-cost Czech Republic and Spain, and been rewarded with strong growth. Laird is the market

leader in car door sealants. and its ability to extract profits from Europe bodes well for its £1.8 million investment in the US, from which it expects an influx of cash by 1998. Meanwhile, its non-automotive businesses, which take in other plastics and computer keyboards, now produce over half of the profits, reducing its depen-

dence on the motor sector and giving it a credible second leg.
All told, Laird is in far

better shape than the market has so far given it credit for. With a strong start to the year and guarantees of longterm growth falling Into place as each month passes, its shares deserve better than a discount to the market.



#### Eurotunnel

THE City view on last November's fire in the Channel Tunnel is that, financially. this is a mere pin-prick for Eurotunnel. True, Eurotunnel's handling of the af-fair was a public relations disaster, and the fire renewed powerful fears about travel-

ling under the sea. But, as yesterday's traffic figures show, the convenience of the tunnel can conquer such phobias. And the cost of the disruption to Eurotunnel - no more than £10 million after insurance -is dwarfed by E9 billion of debt. Eurotunnel was bust before the fire, and is still bust afterwards. Without nailing down October's refinancing deal, lost revenues

become irrelevant That deal could still be torn force Eurotunnel to abandon the controversial open-sided

1.5782-1.5792 1635.90-1656.90 122.58-122.63 2.4854-2.4864 1.8763-1.8768 5.7937-6.8009

167.60-167.70 1.4337-1.4347 141.20-141.25 7.5955-7.6030

1.4320-1.4330

OTHER STERLING

Malpas, the British co-chairman, yesterday mounted a robust defence of the wagons. rubbishing the alleged blow-torch effect as "a fallacy".

Mr Malpas needs the Channel Tunnel Safety Authority to back him up. If not, the blow to the banks' confidence could be more important than the cost of new wagons. Eurotunnel has already been proved wrong about the scale of the disruption the fire would cause, and the integrity of its safety procedures. It cannot afford to be wrong again.

#### Surveyors

THERE was a time when partnership in a big professional firm was a prize without equal. For a few City law or accountancy firms, it may still be so but for many young ship looks as much a liability as the road to riches. This profession has never really

crash. While firms of chartered surveyors scrambled for diminishing business in the early 1990s, accountants pinched their consulting business and clients squeezed the fees on valuations and

property management. Since then, the property market has recovered and confidence continues to improve but profitability remains weak. Fee levels have not improved and costs are still too high. At least one major firm has seen its high-flying junior staff quit after being offered partnership. After seeing the accounts. they fled to smaller firms.

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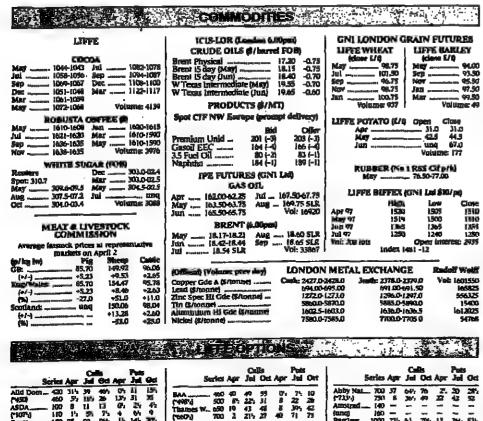
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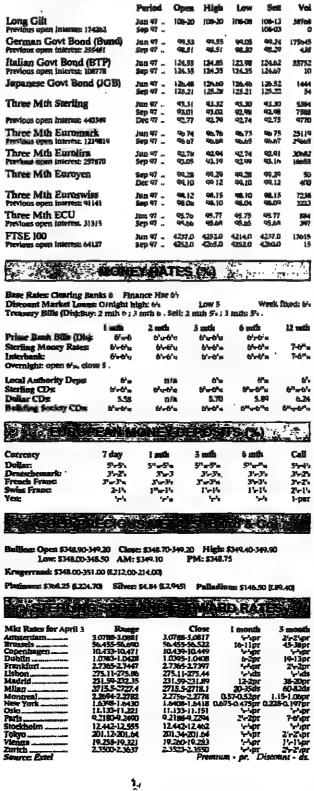
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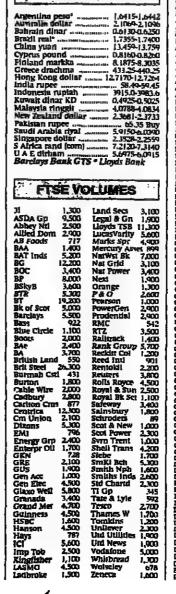
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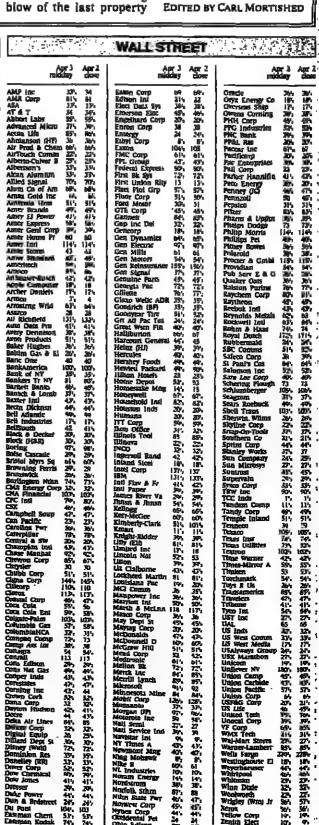
There are exceptions, Savills has benefited from the buoyant agricultural land market and sales of expensive homes. But commercial surveyors are still reluctant to cut their cloth to suit a leaner world and dis-Mayfair offices. A cottage industry with few barriers to entry cannot afford mansions.

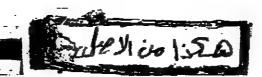


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#### Safaris after the City jungle

PIERRE Mourgue d'Algue

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is trading his City monkey suit for a pair of khaki shorts. The dashing managing director and co-founder of LatInvest has turned down a substantial sweetener to spend another five years with the investment bank, bought last year by Banco Bilbao Vizacaya, in favour of the African bush. After hunting with the vultures at Citicorp, Hoare Govett, and Schroders, Mourgue d'Algue, 37, wants to build up his "ecofriendly" safari business, operating out of Galdessa Camp, Kenya. With plans to build a ranch in South Africa and set up a hotels agency in Switzerland, it comes as a surprise to hear Mourgue d'Algue liken himself to an elephant, "Zey are solitary animals," he smooches, "zey set their sights on



Mourgue d'Algue likens

#### Conroy's gold PROFESSOR Richard

Conroy is back in the public eye, almost two years to the day since. leaving Arcon Internationcompany that he founded. The former Irish senator and Professor of Physiology at the Royal College of Surgeons in Dublin, is listing his new company. on Ofex. Conroy Dia-monds and Gold's main asset is a gold prospect at Clontibret, Co Monaghan, valued in the £3.6 million to £5.5 million range. Conroy is now planning to tap 90 to 100 holes in the lucrative looking vein.

#### Survivor's medal

TORY sleaze stories are welcome at one company. at least, Jean Manson Souvenirs, a Surrey firm that sells trinkets to cathedral and museum shops, is trying desperately to clear its shelves of 986 keyrings engraved "Tory Rule Sur-vivor's Medal". Cast three years ago, in a fit of pique, before the economic upturn and unemployment downturn, Mike Hanson, the company's head, thought the political souvenirs had past their sell-by date. He has awarded 14 medals to seriously deserving individuals but, inspired by recent scandals, he is selling the remainder at 80p each.

PETER WARD and Michael Hickey are on the move. The dynamic corporate financiers, at Quilter Goodison before it was snapped up in 1986 by Banque Paribas, where they have worked until now specialising in property, are off to the English Trust Company.

#### Croft award

AN ENGLISH computer networking company has fallen foul of the Academy of Motion Pictures, Arts, and Sciences. The announcement from Croft on the World Wide Web that it had won a "Computer Industry Oscar" sent shockwaves through the Internet. Phil Renton, Croft managing director, received an angry letter from Ladas and Parry, the New York law firm acting for the Californian-based Academy, pointing out that "Os-car" is a trade name owned by the Academy. Croft had in fact won "Digital Resell-

er of the Year". MORAG PRESTON





ANATOLE KALETSKY

# Major finds it's too late to look beyond the pocketbook

The Tories have failed to win credit

for their

economic successes

oor John Major: the universal scepticism provoked by his launch of the Tory manifesto on Tuesday said it all about the electoral rout he now faces. The easy ride Tony Blair suggested why Labour is well on the way to winning with the biggest majority enjoyed by any British governing party since the Second World War. The key point is simple enough. The Tories, despite their success in managing the economy since White Wednesday, are judged to be incompetent, unre-liable and dishonest. Against this list of negatives, the Labour Party does not need to offer any positive distinctive policies. To win, Mr Blair has only to present a reassuring air of selfdeprecation and speak frankly about how little he can realistically promise to achieve.

so easy to neutralise the good economic record? And why do voters now seem so unmoved by Tory promises of further tax cuts - especially ones carefully crafted to reinforce their image as a party of family values? The manifesto launches sug

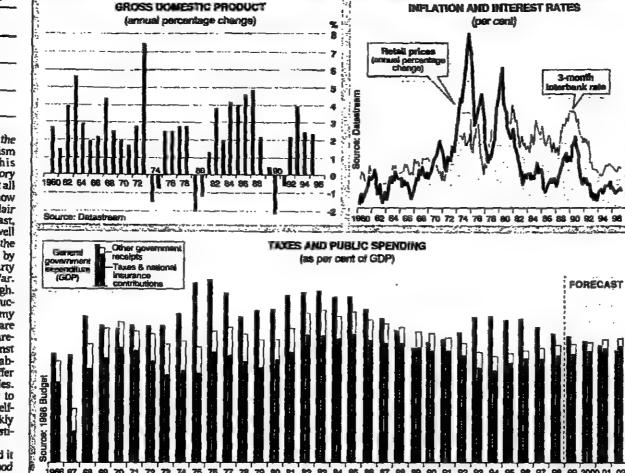
tested some answers. Chalenged to explain why he had failed to keep the promises on taxes and exchange-rate stabil-ity that he made in the 1992 election manifesto, Mr Major recited a laundry-list of economic achievements which he had delivered and had not even promised or imagined possible five years ago: Britain now has the strongest 'economy in Europe: the lowest interest Europe's best record on unemployment.

ain's performance in relation to discussed at length in this than Germany, France or Italy employment. However, Brit-ain's performance in relation to the rest of the world is now unquestionably better than it was in the 1960s. Thirty years the OECD average in 8 out of 15 years — although it has also bility than any other country.

But the Tories' failure to

But why has Labour found it

These claims are broadly true, though not as conclusive as Mr Major suggests. Britother European economies was column two weeks ago. Britain has certainly performed better since the 1992 recession, but, taking the whole 18-year period since 1979, Britain's record is very similar to the Continent's in terms of both growth and ago, Britain consistently lagged behind every other OECD country, Indeed there was only one year between 1960 and 1982 in which Britain's GDP growth exceeded the OECD average. Since 1983, by contrast, Britain's growth rate has beaten



THE LONG-TERM ECONOMIC RECORD

capitalise on their economic record cannot be explained by such esoteric arguments about statistics. There is a much simpler explanation: the Government's failure to gain any credit for its undoubted economic achievements is entirely Mr Major's fault. The fundamental cause goes

back to the monetarist mantra of the 1980s: that government policy could do nothing to stimulate economic growth, to overcome recessions or to create employment. By the time Mr Major became Prime Minnonsense. The fateful decision to join the European exchangerate mechanism was the traumatic event which eiched this delusion indelibly

in the national psyche, just as the race towards European Monetary Union is today the symbol of

the same madness in Germany and France. When Britain left the ERM and suddenly adopted a sensible and pragmatic policy of active demand management, Mr Major had a golden opportunity to claim credit for the Damascene conversion. But this would have required an open repudiation of the ERM, monetary union and the whole panoply of monetarist dogma which Mr Major learnt by rote in his years at the Treasury. The Prime Minister preferred to brazen it out. He pretended that nothing much had changed — his policies had been right all along and if anything had happened, it was all the fault of the Germans. As they observed the growing

divergence between economic reality and government rhetoric after White Wednesday, it was hardly surprising that people decided Mr Major did not know what he was doing and was not to be trusted. It was even more predictable that the tenuous link between 90Vernment popularity and economic performance broke down completely after Septem-

ber 1992. To cap it all, Mr Major, in his panic after White Wednesday, also allowed the Bank of England to promote the idea the hands of politicians and put under the technocratic control of an independent central bank. He thus lost all the poss-

6 Taxes and public spending exist to express

> ible credit for his one unquest-- low inflation. Worse still, from the Tory standpoint, he simultaneously neutralised the voters' traditional fear that a Labour government would mean rising prices and high

social preferences 9

mortgage rates.
But it is not only for the failure to capitalise on general economic management that the Tories should blame Mr Major. In Wednesday's manifesto launch, Mr Major also faced a barrage of hostile questioning about his perfectly reasonable (though far from perfect) proposal to offer a tax concession to encourage marriage. The main criticism was mindless but well deserved: Where will

the money come from? This is, of course, exactly the phrase which Mr Major has used to heckle every Labour policy proposal on any subject, from devolution for Scotland and London to reforming teacher training or changing the ways that children are taught. It is a mindless phrase which has completely stifled all rational debate in Britain about setting the right priorities in public spending and reforming the tax structure. Now Mr Major is getting a taste of his own

Where the money will come about a policy which is supposed to change the balance between different types of taxes, rather than reduce the total

tax burden. Anyway. Mr Major made the source of the money clear enough: the new marriage allowance would take his earlier pledges to reduce the

standard rate of income tax. By implication, therefore, the marriage allowance could be financed in the same way as the reductions in tax rates have been in the past - by whittling away other tax privileges or by raising indirect taxes. The right question to ask about the marriage allowance, therefore, is not where the money will come from, but whether a sound public purpose is served by modestly redistributing the burden of taxes from people who are married to those who are not.

In the past this question would generally have been answered in the affirmative.

by definition, a more explicit commitment than mere cohabitation to stay together and bring up children. It seems perfectly reasonable, therefore, that the tax system should recognise the marriage contract and should modestly favour marriage - as indeed the British tax system did until 1990 and the European and American systems still general-In Britain today, however

such views are treated with a mixture of indignation and day. After fending off all the questions about "where the money will come from", he faced another line of attack which used to be reserved for Tory campaigns against Lab-our: was the Government proposing to use taxes for "social engineering? Was public money to be directed at noneconomic objectives?

The answer to these ques tions should have been a clear "yes". There is nothing wrong with social engineering. It is what governments are elected to do, whether by providing education and health or by supporting the poor. Taxes and public spending exist to express social preferences, to achieve non-economic objectives and to override market forces. But such arguments have been forgotten after 18 years of freemarket fundamentalism which elevated economics above politics and made an anathema of social policy. Mr Major, hav-ing shot himself in the foot on economics, may now want to move British politics beyond pocketbook issues. But his conversion has come too late.

## Western firms tackle the last frontier

Sarah Cunningham in Moscow looks

at moving into the Russian market

tackling the Russian market for the first time is a nerve-racking experience. Everyone - up to and including, it seems, the Queen - recognises that it is an unusually dangerous place to do business.

When the Queen attended the official opening of a Boots building and was told the its healtheare arm was about to launch its Nurofen painkiller in Russia she reportedly asked presumably prompted by lurid tales of the Russian mafia - whether this was not a risky matter.

The answer is that indeed it is. But according to Westem businessmen working in lies within the Common-States (CIS) the risks are as much to do with an underdeveloped distribution network, confusing tax and property laws, spiralling costs and late-paid bills as with organised crime.

However, the risks and companies. Mesmerised by the CIS's abundant natural resources and its 300 million consumers, with more than 140 million in Russia alone, they have poured in during the

from Sunsilk shampoo to 6 The potential is good, but tea in the for

pockets ? untapped market in the world . . . the last frontier". It also calls it "an unpredictable and difficult place to do

you need deep

Arian Alikhani, an Englishman who runs two trading firms in Russia and has lived in Moscow for five years, says there were 30,000 Western residents, mainly diplomats, in Moscow when he arrived. Now there are more than 200,000, many of

Nurofen launch in St Petersburg and Moscow, which is much more than it would spend on a comparable launch in the West.

It believes that as the first branded ibuprofen painkill-er to be sold in Russia, it will have an opportunity to get and keep market leadership. Advil, the leading US ibuprofen brand, is expected on the Russian market next

Experience shows, Boots says, that the first to arrive stays first in the market. Unilever, Smith Kline Beecham and Colgate have been attacking the East European toothpaste markets one by one. And in each case the first in has won.

Cost is now the biggest single barrier to entry in Russia, Mr Alikhani says. "The potential [for Boots] is good, but it will have to be prepared to spend a lot. You need deep pockets." Com-panies also need to find a good local partner, he says, something Boots, which has

with throat lozenges, believes it has already done.

Alikhani, is chief executive of Middlesex Holdings, a company that has built up a range of interests in the CIS from aluminium to financial on the London Stock Exchange last year.

The elder Mr Alikhani has been visiting Russia every few weeks for the past nine years and has been stunned by the rise in costs. He says: "A meal used to cost \$1, now it costs \$70 to \$80 a bead. A flat in central Moscow was \$12,000, now it is \$350,000 to \$500,000."

An added cost for Western companies is paying for private security. It is normal and quite legal for groups of armed guards to be hired to protect warehouses, shops

and offices and bodyguards are also widely used. Murders of top Russian bankers and businessmen are frequent and although fewer foreigners are targeted, there have been enough who would never bother in London or New York de-

Masoud Alikhani never uses them and reckons that the gangster

pend on bodyguards in

problem is exaggerated. He thinks decade, just after the col-

Soviet system. He thinks many of the criminals are moving into the business mainstream. There aren't many Al Capones now," he

He admits, however, that he has turned down offers to become involved in Russian businesses where he suspects he would run up against the mafia. These include lotteries, casinos, and retail operations, Cigar ette and alcohol distribution by organised crime.

After the lifting of import restrictions, the black market for branded goods such as Levis and Rayban sunelasses is not what it was, But the enthusiasm for Western brands - from jeans to soap - has not died down. There is still a strong preference for foreign rather than locally made goods and they can command premi-

This, Boots likes to think. is where the company comes in. Barry Clare, managing director of Boots Healthcare International, says the company has no ambitions to sell to every Russian. The target market for ibuprofen is only twoand three million people in Russia.

For the average person, Nurofen will cost the equivalent of about £2 for a pack of 12 - ten times the cost of a locally made painkiller. Only the wealthy will be able to afford Western cures for their Russian-produced headaches and hangovers.

## Jon Ashworth voices fears over anti-fraud proposals

# Teamwork or dangerous liaisons?



The Conservatives have singled out crime in the City as a postelection target, but the weaponry they have in mind is questionable. The election manifesto pledges to bring forward a package of measures designed to modernise the current systems for dealing with City fraud.

New legislation would allow the Inland Revenue to pass confidential information to the police, the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) and other financial regulators to assist in the investigation of serious financial fraud.

Fine in principle, were it not for the case of Michael Allcock, the Inland Revenue investigator jailed for five years in February for taking kick-backs in his dealings with supposed tax evaders. Transcripts from his trial show the extent to which this sharing of information could be used to threaten individuals for personal gain.

Trial witnesses told how information was exchanged between the Stock Exchange surveillance division and the Inland Revenue's Special Office 2. In one instance, an anonymous property developer held a meeting with a Stock Exchange official in a pub in Oxford Circus, central London, and asked for help in "cutting a deal" with the Revenue over a £70,000 rax bill.

If the Stock Exchange were to intercede, the informant would blow

the whistle on an insider dealing ring that had allegedly netted several million pounds for the participants.

Alicock told the court that Alan Wilson, a member of the Stock Exchange insider dealing group, tele-phoned him to say that he had monitored some enormous share transactions, performed through Swiss companies and involving £650 million. Wilson had a contact who could identify who was behind the transactions, but the contact "had a tax problem" and wanted to know whether it could be "sorted out" in return for evidence.

The person behind the share transactions was "somebody prominent in the investment world". The approach was made in September 1989.

What the court did not hear was that the same month Richard Cook, Allcock's "right-hand man" at the Inland Revenue, rang John Gwyer, then head of tax investigations at Coopers & Lybrand, which acted for Asil Nadir, chairman of Polly Peck International.

Cook claimed to have obtained information from the Stock Exchange about alleged share-ramping of Polly Peck shares by Nadir, using offshore front companies. The tone was, settle up and none of this will come out. The approach took place a year before the SFO raid on South Audley Management (SAM), which handled Nadir's private finan-Increasingly aggressive corres-

pondence culminated in a meeting at Coopers & Lybrand in April 1990. Cook produced lists of transactions in Polly Peck shares and made vague references to people coming to Landon to collect cash. The upshot was: cooperate or we'll have the largest investigation ever imposed by the Inland Revenue.

In September 1990, the SFO launched its ill-fated dawn raid on the SAM offices. Shares in Polly Peck were swiftly suspended after losing more

than half their value in one day. The suspicion - and it is no more than that — is that the Stock Exchange tipped off the SFO, which blundered in without thinking through the consequences. The Nadir line is that Polly Peck would still be prospering were it not for the SFO raid. Others will recall Nadir's abortive share buyback, coupled with the subsequent discovery of a

black hole" in the Polly Peck accounts. Whatever, the mere suspicion that the sharing of information between regulators contributed to the collapse of a leading company, suggests the need for caution. The Revenue claims to have tightened its internal procedures, but the risk remains. A little knowledge is a dangerous thing.

The European Parliament announces that for procedural reasons it has reissued the call for tenders in connection with the furniture and artificial plants for the European Parliament Information Centre (library and ancillary services) in the Leopold Complex in Brussels, comprising counters, shelving, tables, seats, armchairs, shelves, drawer units and office accessories such as coat-stands, wastepaper baskets, trolleys etc...

The same announcement has already been published in English in The Times at the beginning of March 1997.

The deadline for the submission of tenders, initially set at 1 April 1997, has been put back to 16 May 1997.

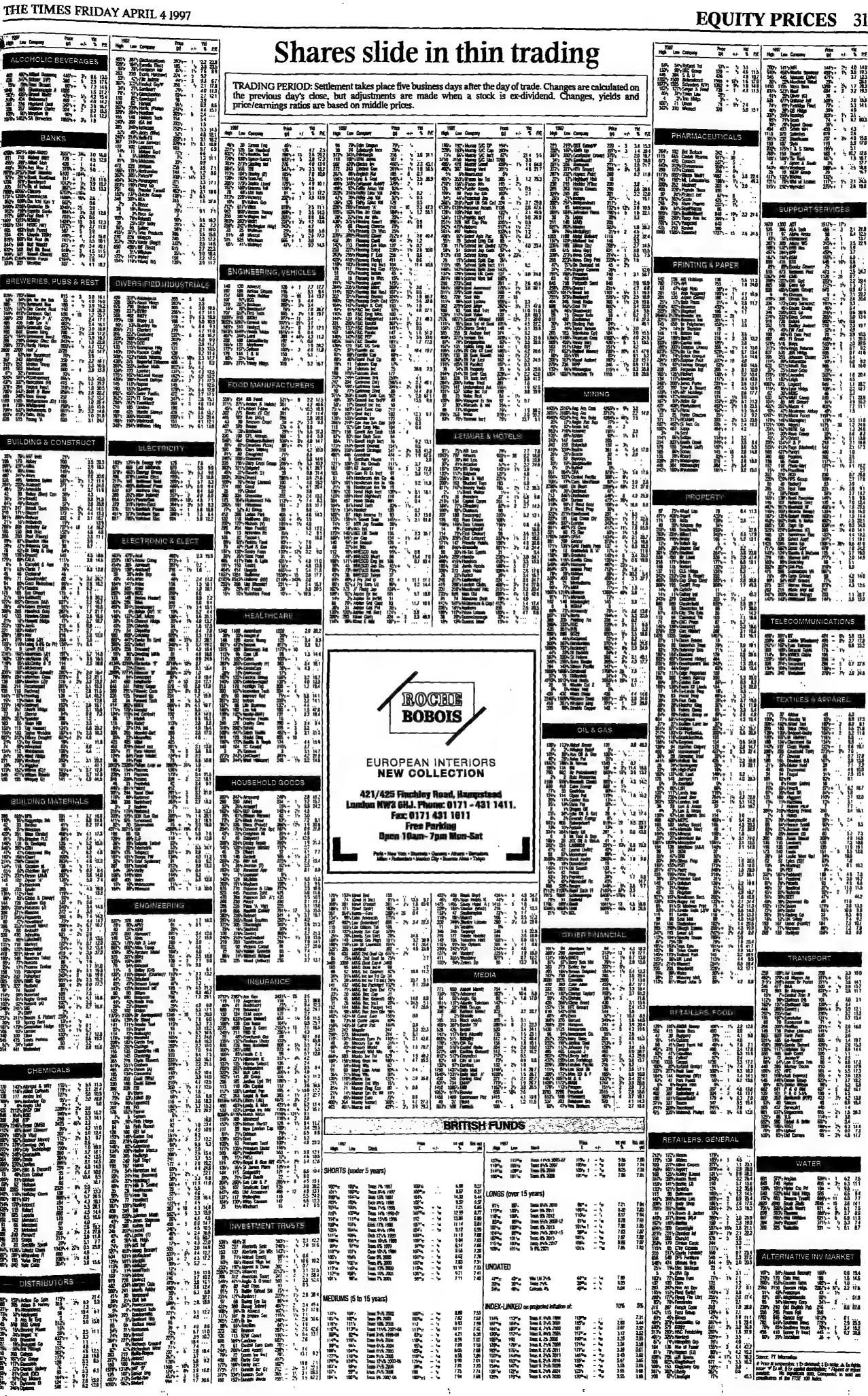
The notice was sent to the Official Journal on 5 February 1997 and the notice correcting the deadline was sent on 25 March.

A visit to the site is set for 15 April 1997

Further information may be obtained from Mr Dino CANTOREGGI, Head of the **Buildings Technical Management Division** in Brussels, Fax (+32) (0) 2 2844966 quoting the reference 'Epicentre'.

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CHOICE 1

Mary Black sings From the Heart during her only London concert VENUE: Sunday at the

Barbican Centre



■ CHOICE 2

Ricochet Dance Company performs a new work by Javier de Frutos VENUE: Tomorrow at the Queen Elizabeth Hall





**■ CHOICE 3** 

James MacMillan's Clarinet Concerto is given its world premiere VENUE: Tonight at the Usher Hall, Edinburgh



**POP** 1

In praise of Luscious Jackson: four American girls who like their music scratchy, restless, honest — and loud

LONDON workends of irish music begin tonight with a concert by Donal Lunny's Wheels of the World Band, leaburing Lam O'Meonia (Hothouse Flowers) and Maire Brennan, (Clarinad) Tornomow, Paul Bracky is joined on stage by Altan, and on Sunday Mary Black gives her only London show this year Berblean, Sitk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8991). All pediomances at 7 30pm S891), All performances at 7 Jupin LANGUAGE HOLL STTE: Durigh Carville 9 tast-tailing play set in a Bellast puls on a pound-e-pirit night where pathy hums to dangerous high-telling Tim Loane directs the Tinderboor Theatre production, slightly recast from last year's successful premiere Bunth, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388) Opens tonight, 7pm Then Mon-Sal, 8pm Umit April 25 RICOCHET DANCE COMPANY: A

RICOCHET DANCE COMPANY A
rew Invo-part programme includes
Rosemany Lee's debut work for the
company, Treating the Night Plain
Laver de Frutos's second pece for
Ricochet — All visitors bring happanesis,
some by conting, some by going — is
set to Stravnsky's Les Nocas
Company Substitute Hall, South Bank,
SEI (0171-980 4242) Tomonow,
7 45pm. (9) ENDYMION ENSEMBLE MYNIG Ososiowicz, violin, Jame Salmon, callo,

LI AMERICAN BUFFALO: Dougles Heranell, Net Stute and Nicholas Woodeson play the times small-time grooks in Dand Marhet's gripping drama Lindsay Posner directs, Young Vis. 66 The Cut, SE 1 (0171-928 6363). Final performances tonight and lomonow 7 30pm; mat Sat, 2 30pm.

THE HOMECOMING, PROPE unraving comedy, set in a north London house where David Bradiny's butying Max leads the struggle to possess his eldast sorth ewire (Lindaay Duncan), Roger Michel directs, National (Lystation), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252), Tongith Sat, 7 30pm, mat Sat, 2,15pm in rep

THE IMPORTANCE OF UTBIO OSCAR: Micheel MacLiammón' OSICAR: Michael MacLiammor's calebrated tribule to Wide: movingly revived by Simon Callow, conveying the writ, the gravity, the distress.

Barroy, Srand, WC2 (0171-836 9899), Mon-Set, Spm; mats Wed and Set, Spm. M IVANOV: Raigh Flennes heads a spiendid cast in Jonathan Kent's inicellent production of Chakhoy's first

produced play Almeida, Almaida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 7 30pm; mats Sat, 3pm. Until April 12. CILADY WINDERNIERE'S PAIN Braham Muruy's production of Wilde (Now) from Marchage for a lar-agen

NEW RELEASES

ie FEVER PITCH (15) Football-praint leacher (alle in love Appealing version of Nick Homby's book, with Colin Firth, Rum Germmell: Desictor, David Evers Hart German: Descor, Use Board Chapter Picture House (0171-198 3223) Odeons: Kensington (0181-315 4214) Maruta Arch (0167-315 4210) Swiss Cottage (0181-315 4220) West End (0181-315 4221) Pitzy (0171-737 2121) UCI Whiteleys (0990-888 990) Virgis Chellee (0171-352 6086) HARD MEN (18). Tension among London hitmen. Mercinotous British thriller in the Tarartinid mould.

Llly (0171-437 3581) A SELF-MADE NERO (16) decues Audiard's captivating firm about a bogus Resistance hero in the Second World Curzon Mayfelt (0171-389 1720) B37 84(2) Pro (0171-264 0677)

TOKYO PIST (18); Cyberpunk love trangle from Japanese director Shinys Tsukamoto Not for the squearnish ICA Cinema (0171-930 3847)

CURRENT

+ THE DIGLISH PATIENT (15): Map-

WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts

and Michael Dussek, pieno, perform Brahms's Cello Soneta in F and Pieno Trito in C minor, and Bach's Partita for trolo vralin Blackheath Concert Halls, 23 Lee Road, SE3 (0181-463 0100) Sunday, 11 30am.

ELSEWHERE BELFAST Dmilry Stikowetsky ndelssohn's overture to A Isummar Night's Dream, Shchednn's

Hussian Protographs and Bust's Symphony in C. Jean-Louis Steuerin Johns the orchestra for Beethoven's Plana Concern No. 1 Utster Hall, Bedford Street (01332 233340) Tonight, 745pm. BLACKPOOL: The Shebens
Jeyashigh Dance Company performs
Romance with footnotes and a new
work, Pathropest, performed to a
composition by Grahem Riskin,
Bread, 23 Church Street (11255
28372). Tomorrow, 8pm. [b] Enthalument, The Royal Section National Orchestra gives the world premiere of James MacMillan's Clarinet Concerto, Minian (solidist John Cushing) Schubert's and Nielsen's Symphony No 5, Paul Deniel conducts. Repeated tomonow, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. Usher Hall, Lothen Roed (0131-228 1155) Tonight, 7.30pm (5)

HUDDERSPELD The Hodderseld Poetry Festival celebrates as tenth erniversary over the next three weekends (today and tomorow, April 1) end 12 April 18 and 19) with an ovelive programme of performance, stc, theetre and mime dia Centine, Northumberland Street (01484 452070), Today-April 19

LONDON GALLERIES Art First: David Prentice; Mergaret Hunter (0171-734 0386) . Catto: Lélia Pissarro (0171-435 6660) . Goethe-Institut: Low; Counth and His Times Insertuit Low, Connth and his Times (0171-411 3400) ... Nettonel: Decovering the Balan Baroque: The Dente Mahon Collection (0171-747 2885) ... National Portrait: Variations on a Theme 150 Years of Photographs of Bhilish Composers, August Sander (0171-305 0055) ... Perfuggram: Tony Evens (0171-229 3477) ... Royal Academy: Braque: The Lake Worlds (0171-439 7436) ... Royal Over-Seas Leegue Jacks Philip (0171-408 0214)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London House full, returns only Some meta symichic Seste at all prices

season Gabrielle Drake plays the woman with a past, Rebecca Johnson the virtuous wile without a mother, Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800), Man-Sat, Sprit; mate Thurs, 3pm, Set. 5pm,

ILI POPCORN: Ben Ston's blatering cornedy about movie violence. A l'arantmoesque director geta his conne-uppance when two serial killers (great uppands when two sense wees great playing by Patrick O'Kane and Dens Davis) blame him for their misdeeds Apollio, Statistoury Avenue, W1 (0171-4945050) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mals Wed, 3pm, and Set. 4pm

☐ ROMANCE, ROMANCE Must double-bill by Berry Herman and Keith Hermann, derwed from a Schmizter hit of love in old Vienna coupled with a modern version set on Long Island Directed by Steven Deater Gleiguid, Shahasbury Avenue, W1

(01,71-494 5065) Mon-Sat, Sprn; mets Thurs and Sat, 3pm

THEN AGAIN ...: A new Lyric 

WOMEN ON THE VERSE OF HITT: Marki Jones and Ellean Police Iows with Daywel O'Commell Will Insh cornedy but their daydraams are a ba Obvious somehow. Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) Mon-Sat, 7.46pm; mate Thurs and Sat, 3pm

LONG RUNNERS

☐ Blood Brothers: Phoenix (0171-389 1733) . ■ Cats: New London (0171-405 0172) . ☐ The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) Cherton (1717-3-39 17-9-9) Works of William Shakespears (Abridged): Cristron (0171-369 1727) D March Gastre Phres Edward (0171-447 5400) ... If Les Micerables: Palace (0171-434 9909) Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theelre

CINEMA GUIDE

off Brown's essentiative of the in London and (where loated with the symbol ◆ ) where somes the country

Instigent, Biologh not quas worth all five prace. Checker, Anthony Minghalla. Checkers, (0171-498 3323). \*Custare House (0171-498 3323). \*Custare West East (0177-398 1722). Odsons: Kenshington (0181-315 4214). Martist Arch (0181-315 4216). Switz. Cottage (0181-316 4220). Plazza (0990-888 990). Resoir (0171-837 8402). Richmond (0181-332 0380). Ris (0171-284 6677). Rither (0171-737 2121). 254 6677) Hittay (0171-737 2121) Screen on Balter Street (0171-935 3520) UCI Whiteleys (0990-888 993) Virgin Fullmin Roed (017): 370 2838) Werner (0171-437 4343) Watermans (0181-568 1176)

◆ JERRY MAGUIRE (15): A sports PR sgent gets a conscience. Encyable, if overlong comedy, with Tom Cruise. Empire (0990 58890) Octeone: Kynstington (0181-315 4214) Warste Arch (0181-315 4216) Swiss Cottage

(0181-315 4220) Plaza (5) (0990 066330) UC; Whiteleys (5) (0990 088990) Virgins: Chelses (0171-362 5096) Pulham Road (0171-370 2836)

dero 🚨 (0171-434 0031) SPACE JAM (U): Soots IIII SPACE JAM (J): Sport: Implemental Jordan collides with characters from Looney Tunes carbons. Clapham Picture House (0171-498. 322) Odeoes; Kansbagen (0181-315-219) Swiss Cottage (0181-315-220) Ritay (0171-737-2121) UCI Whiteleys (0181-737-2121) UCI Whiteleys (0181-7352-5036) Tracades (0181-352-5036) Tracades (0181-

IONEO + JULIET (12); Eller



"In New York, you're allowed to make as much noise as you like," say Luscious Jackson. So that's all right, then

# Meet grown-up spice

uman beings are shaped by the land they live on. For Eskimos, lanwage seems to be little more than an oral filing system for different types of snow. Australia's terrain shaped the Australian accent - the harsh open spaces and small population caused conversation to be brisk in tone, but slow in tempo. And the copious number of flies meant that one had to talk through gritted teeth. So it comes as no surprise that the great cities of the world should influence the

music that is made within their ring-roads. Luscious Jackson are the sound of New York in all its cross-cultural. life-affirming glory. Gabby Glaser, the band's singer and guitarist, has it taped: Proper coffee; stores that are open at four in the morning selling hot bagels; bumping into people you haven't seen for a while and ending up at a house with them. stores selling cute denim jackets for \$9 that smell like someone's died in them. People on roller skates reading The Wall Street Journal

that girls could do hip-hop and They came from New York to shatter every illusion about the woman-pop

thing. They are Luscious Jackson

coffee." We're in a swish London hotel, and Glaser is grimacing

over our coffee. No wonder the murder rate's so high in New York, I say. The police must be perpetually busy, turning up at people's apartments and telling them to keep the noise down. "No, no. We have laws about

"You're allowed to make as much noise as you like. It's like the Freedom of Noise Amendment, or something."

one open window, breakbeat

NATIONAL THEATHE 50 0171 928 2252 Grps 0171 620 0741, 24th

Natural Ingredients. Fever In Fever Out avoids the overproduced sterility that plagues most second albums, choosing

> fortlessly through its 14 tracks, keeping things scratchy. restless and honest Lead singer Jill Cunniff's febrile love life seems the starting point for many of the songs. She appears to have hung out with more rats than Dick

instead to breeze ef-

ser, on the other hand, appears to have found perfect love: "Laughing and dancing til the sun comes out/Then later, when we're en our stom achs are speaking to each other.

Nearly every tune is giddy with pristine harmonies and that distinctive tang of genius. It's hard to believe that, when Luscious Jackson first emerged, many critics ex-

pop. "Yeah; there seems to be general surprise that our wombs don't get in the way of our guitars," Glaser says. Although I've noticed that a lot of people stopped acting quite so strange about Kate being a drummer when she made it clear that she was a

cynical." All of Luscious Jackson cackle cynically.

● The single Naked Eye is re-leased by Grand Royal records on Monday. Fever In Fever Out

# et seriou **Gypsy** passions

WILD and untamed, Taraf de Haidouks come from a tiny gypsy village in Romania. For years they played at local festivals but since the downfall of communism they have been storming the concert plat-forms of Western Europe Hugely popular in France and Belgium, the 12-strong troupe were making their first visit to London and their stomping performance full of dark passion sent a capacity audience home in joyous mood.

> WORLD MUSIC

Taraf de Haidouks Barbican

Taral range in age from 77 to 19. At the start the full ensemble is shambolic, and barely in tune. This is apparently par for the course: they are accustomed to playing all night and the first few numbers are little more than a warm-up. Things improve dramatically when they break down into smaller combinations, allowing each of five violinists the spotlight. None of them can read or write but their musical virtuosity is phenomenal: the melodies are complex and the improvised solos are taken at breakneck speed as each attempts to

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**阿拉斯斯斯斯斯斯斯斯** 

**VIV.** . .

surpass the others. This is music from deep within the gypsy soul. The heartbeat comes from the cimbalom, an East European dulcimer that is hammered with gusto, providing a shifting but insistent rhythm. The line-up is completed by a plucked double bass and a pair of accordions. The vocals are high and intense, ranging from the plaintive Cintec de Superare Tiganesc (Sad Gypsy Song) to Balada Conducatorolul (Ballad of the Dictator), sung in an ancient guttural delivery to a traditional tune with words mocking the fallen tyrant Ceausescu.

The faster songs are full of mischief, celebrating the traditional gypsy life. By the time the full group are reunited for ten and they are on fire as one. Taraí de Haidouks are an earthy, living treasure - eccentric humorous and exhausting. It is hard to think of anything else quite like them.

ART GALLERIES

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from another, and sad Hispanic guitar stuff from a third. And like I said before, proper

Second-hand music loud. Walking through Greenwich Village and hearing jazz from

that," Glaser says.

thankful for that law," says drummer Kate Schellenbach. We demo-ed the new album in my flat, and we like our

The final result of all those late-night sessions is the forthcoming album Fever In Fever Out, the sequel to 1994's

CAITLIN MORAN

Whittington. Gla-

pressed thinly veiled surprise

lesbian. It was like, 'Ah-hal That explains that whole woman-drumming thing — she's a lesbian.' Like that was more important than the fact that she used to drum for the Beastie Boys. People like that amuse me now," Schellenbach says. "I can spend an hour after they've gone repeating all the

dumb things they've said and howling with laughter. It's the same when we get invited to parties. We're quite a cool band, but no one knows what we look like. So you might meet someone over the buffet who'll be totally rude and blank you. An hour later, them, they'll be so revoltingly friendly. Not that we're

follows on April 13

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POP 2

How Supergrass were transformed from lightweight Britpoppers to heavyweight rock'n'rollers



POP 3

Their new album proves that the Chemical Brothers are shaping up to be one of the great acts of the 1990s





POP 4

The Australian rockers INXS do themselves no favours with their latest release, Elegantly Wasted



POP 5

Gorky's Zygotic Mynci win the award for most difficult album of the year to pigeon-hole

# It's alright to get serious, lads

f the key Britpop bands, Supergrass were always the jokers in the pack. Lighter than Oasis, brighter than Blur and pithier than Pulp, they made it all look so easy. Their exuberant hit single, Alright, became a defining anthem of youth in the summer of 1995. A song about zooming around on bikes and going down to the pub for the first time, it had an accompanying video which seemed to suggest that three likely lads from Oxford had tumbled into the world of pop almost by accident. And while their first album, I Should Coco, which soared to the top of the chart at about the same time, embraced a variety of musical settings and moods, the perception of the group as a bunch of carefree scamps quickly became fixed in the public mind.

Which is why the sound and look of the new Supergrass single and video. Richard III, is such an eyeopener. A belter of a song, it zones in with all the precision of a heatseeking missile on a mood of frustration and alienation. In the accompanying video, Supergrass now look like the premier league, heavyweight rock'n roll stars that they are, and at one point in the action, bassist Micky Quinn ends up flat on the floor with blood trickling from his nose.

"We've been away for about a year, and we didn't want to creep back in," Quinn says. "We wanted to give people a bit of a slap around the face. Basically, we didn't want to make another Alright, which would simply have reinforced that happygo-lucky image people have got of us, although we would probably self a lot more records if we had."

Whether the world is ready to accept the new, hard-hitting Supergrass remains to be seen. Their American record company has declined to release Richard III, opting instead for a different song, Cheapskate, which is why the group are now ensconced in a studio warehouse in East London, making another video to be used exclusively in the United States. The setting for this one is inspired by a scene in the Al Pacino movie Scarface, and **David Sinclair** 

discovers a new

heavyweight image

being brewed by that ebullient

trio, Supergrass

features the band dressed up as gangsters, playing the song in a living room dominated by a palmtree mural. They have just spent two hours videoing a mouse scurrying along a ventilator shaft, a sequence that will eventually make an intro lasting all of two seconds.

Should have been a big, dirty rat," says singer Gaz Coombes, resplendent in a white, three-piece suit. "I'm disappointed the Ameri-cans went for a different song." Quinn says. "Basically, they want to get us on the radio there and Cheapskate has more the feel they want. But I still think it's a dodgy thing to happen."

This is a rare moment of complaint. For while the Damons, Jarvises and Noels of the pop world are happy to air their grievances, often pouring out their innermost feelings at the drop of a hat, Supergrass have no such inclinations. "Journalists are usually after more than we can give them," Quinn admits. "We just don't feel the need to get too involved in analysing everything."

"Being in a band is supposed to be fun and basically a way of not having to get a proper job," says drummer Danny Goffey, who is recovering from a mohican haircut that went disastrously wrong. Shorn to the scalp, he now looks like a promoter-cum-spiv of vaguely Mediterranean extraction. Our songs don't really have any strong meaning," he casually insists.

There is a lot of hanging around on video shoots, and most bands say they hate doing them. Goffey, who is expecting the arrival at any moment of his partner, her daughter and their six-month old son, is bored and impatient to get on with things. But they all say they enjoy making videos, and maintain a generally relaxed attitude while a mob of technicians scurry around.

They will have a lot more of this sort of thing to do if at some point they take up Steven Spielberg's offer to make them stars of their own American TV series. At the moment the idea has been put on ice while Supergrass establish their identity as a group in America, but they are flattered to have attracted the attention of such a prominent movie

Both Richard III and Cheapskate are lifted from Supergrass's forth-coming second album, In it for the Money. While retaining the vigour and sparky appeal of their earlier work, it marks a giant step forward. Certainly, the group's British record company has pinned an awful lot of hope on its success, especially given the drastically reduced sales of the recently released album by one of their other major clients, Blur. Whereas Blur have taken a dra-

matic, self-conscious lurch away from the British pop mainstream and into the murkier waters of American garageband rock, Supergrass have made a much more subtle reappraisal of their musical goals. More complex and ambitious than their first album, and certainly more rock than pop. In it for the Money was nevertheless recorded on about the same budget as their debut, and at the same studio in Cornwall. The big difference is that this time the group produced it themselves.

"With nobody peering over our shoulder, we didn't let anything hold us back," Coombes says. "So we would develop a wacky idea and just go for it. Sometimes it's good to trash a song, kick it around a bit,

• Supergrass appear on TFI Friday on Channel 4 at opin tonight. The single Richard III is out now on Parlophone. The album in it for the Money is released on April 21. Their UK tour begins at Manchester Apollo on May 2 and ends



The reborn Supergrass in person: Danny Goffey (left) and Gaz Coombes with Micky Quinn behind

JAZZ ALBUMS

## **Tearing** it up, but gently

RON MILES Woman's Day (Gramavision GCD 79516.

LIKE the music of guitarist Bill Frisell, who is heavily featured on this album, and in whose quartet trumpeter Ron Miles has played for the past two years, Woman's Day assimilates a wide variety of contemporary styles without a hint of contrivance. Thus softly swinging quartet pieces setting Miles's gentle, plan-gent trumpet against Frisell's guitar are interspersed with the odd sweet country-flavoured ballad, and occasional bursts of harshly abrasive rock. The multi-textured, adventurous music that results consistently achieves Miles's aim "to produce music that is exciting without that obvious tearing-it-up approach."

CHARLES MINGUS

Mingus Plays Piano (Impulsel IMP 12172, £8.99) TIME was, in the days of vinyl, when "serious" jazz fans - those into John Coltrane, Charles Mingus, Pharoah Sanders and their like — could be immediately identified by the number of distinctive orange-and-black Impulse! spines their record racks contained. Now this same shibboleth can be applied to CD collections, thanks to an extensive reissue programme of classic recordings on the label from the 1960s and early 1970s - Sonny Rollins's Alfie, Alice Coltrane's Journey in Satchidananda, Benny Carter's Further Definitions among them all in highly collectable facsimiles of the original sleeves. Mingus Plays Piano in many ways typifies the label's artistic policy: Charles Mingus is a wonderfully eccentric planist, and it is to Impulse!'s credit that it elicited this unique solo gem from the legendary bassist/composer.

#### TOP TEN ALBUMS

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# The beat and nothing but the beat

THE CHEMICAL BROTHERS Dig Your Own Hole (Freestyle Dust/Virgin 7243 8 42950, E13.99)

WITH their new single, Block Rockin' Beats, providing elo-quent proof that they can stroll to the top of the chart with or without the help of Noel Gallagher, it is clear that the Chemical Brothers are shaping up to be one of the touchstone acts of the 1990s. Their second album, Dig Your Own Hole, is certainly the stuff of which watersheds are

As on the previous outing, Exit Planet Dust, conventional notions of melody and song structure are brusquely reject-ed. Apart from Gallagher's woozy vocal on Setting Sun, and a stretch of folky warbling by Beth Orton at the start of the neo-psychedelic Where Do I Begin, there is no singing.
Instead. Dig Your Own

Hole offers a millennial. club/rock celebration of the beat, the whole beat and virtually nothing but the beat. Not the monotonously regi-

R v Cooder says it was the best musical experience of his life and rumour

has it that Phil Collins is on the way. While the Americans

tighten the noose of the trade

winning Talking Timbuktu.

This is the best thing I was

ever involved in." he says

Something of a legend him-

self, Cooder seems almost

awe-struck to share the spot-

light with a cast-list of legend-

ary Cuban veterans who

practically invented the exotic

rhythms of son and rumba.

mambo and salsa. They in-

clude Compay Segundo, an

89-year-old guitarist and com-

poser whom Cooder describes

simply as "the source", and

Ruben Gonzalez. Ti, "the

greatest piano soloist I have

ever heard in my life". Both

men will make their first visits

without hesitation.

to hang out and record.

beats that have dominated the house and techno scene since the late 1980s, but an exhilarating, rocked-up version of the syncopated rhythms beloved of jazz fusionists such as Herbie Hancock (Block Rockin' Beats), hip hop pioneers such as Grandmaster Melle Mel (Lost In The K-Hole) and the inventor of funk, Mr James Brown him-

self (Get Up On It Like This). Adorned with little more than a bass line, fragments of rap and various scratch and sharter sound effects that explode like depth charges in the guts of the arrangements, these churning rhythm tracks burst out of the speakers like dogs in pursuit of a mechanical hare.

Combining studio and turn-table techniques that the original rock'n'rollers could not have dreamt of, with a calculated style of musical barbarism, the Chemical Brothers are rebuilding rock from its rhythmic foundations up. The effect is a righteously uncompromising album which is

POP ALBUMS: The Chemical Brothers are rebuilding rock, and

the result is a millennial blast

going to scorch a mark on the music scene of 1997 like a

Elegantly Wasted (Mercury 534 613, £13.99) TWENTY years since they started playing local pubs in Australian mining towns, the same six men who still comprise INXS have managed the transition to middle-aged stardom in surprisingly good order. While one would imagine that their continued success is more a triumph of application than of inspiration, their last two albums produced many moments to treasure, and they ought, theoretically, to be well placed to

capitalise on the current mood of the market with their classic dance/rock crossover sound. However, they do themselves no favours with the dull

sloganeering of this album's title track, one of several songs, including the sketchy Girl On Fire and pretentious She is Rising, that sound too much like INXS-by-numbers for comfort. Of the more melodicatly developed songs. Searching

uncovers a tender, almost pleading tone in Michael Hutchence's voice, while the pounding Shake The Tree is one of several passages of high drama. But although they strike all the familiar musical poses this album has a hollow ring. Rather like its decadently self-regarding title, Elegantly Wasted lacks soul.

CDs reviewed in The Times can be ordered from the Times Music Shop on 0345 023498. GORKY'S ZYGOTIC MYNCI Barafundle

(Fontana 534 769, £13.99) GORKY'S Zygotic Mynci are the Welsh band who have built an impressive word-ofmouth reputation, considering no one knows how to pro-nounce their name. Their fourth album. Barafundle, wins the most-difficult-to-pigeonhole collection of the year award by a mile.

A combination of primarily acoustic musical textures, intricate harmonies and obscure Welsh whimsy, tracks such as Sometimes The Father is The Son and Miniature Kingdoms have a quaint pastoral charm. An intriguing sense of olde worlde otherness is bolstered by devices such as a threepiece shawm (medieval oboe) section on Starmoonsun and 'monk voices" on Pen Gwag Glas. At the same time, their inability to play through a song without introducing a sudden time or tempo change recalls the irritating working practices, if not the precise sound, of prog-rock hippie

outfits such as Caravan and Gentle Giant. Crazy name, crazy guys.

**VARIOUS ARTISTS** Basquiat - Original Soundtrack

(Island 524 260, £15.49) APART from David Bowie's sensational performance in the role of Andy Warhol, the best thing about the movie biography of the artist Jean-Michel Basquiat is the soundtrack. With numbers by John Cale (Hallelujah), Tom Waits (Tom Traubert's Blues), PJ Harvey (a specially recorded is That All There is?). Them (irs All Over Now, Baby Blue) and many others, it is a tremendously evocative

Unfortunately, the Rolling Stones number, Beast Of Burden, which is played just as Courtney Love makes her devil woman entrance in the film, is one of several tracks which are missing. Whatever the reason, an otherwise great album is diminished.

DAVID SINCLAIR

# Rolling their own in Havana

WORLD MUSIC: Nigel Williamson on Ry Cooder's Cuban mission

blockade on Cuba, the rhythms of salsa have suddenly made Havana the fashion-"Cuban musicians are able place for rock musicians unique," says Cooder. The organisation of the Cooder is rhapsodic about recording with Cuban musimusical group is perfectly understood, there is no ego, no jockeying for cians on his new album. Buena Vista Social Club. his This lack of ego led to first since the Grammy award-

three extraordinary alburns being recorded inside two weeks in Havana last March. In addition to his own recording. Cooder guests on the Afro-Cuban All Stars alborn, a recreation of the big band sound of the "golden era" of the 1940s and 1950s. And he also encouraged Ruben Gonzalez to make his debut

solo album, more than half a century after the pianist first entered a recording studio with the great band leader Arsenio Rodriguez. A quietly spoken, modest man, Gonzalez did not even

own a piano when he was



shows Ry Cooder the way

rediscovered last year. One day he wandered into the Havana studio where Cooder and the All Stars were recording and began playing while they took a coffee break. "It was a brand new, beautiful

piano and I had to play it. Then someone turned up the lights and I thought they wanted me to go because I was interrupting. But they asked me to

Compay Segundo, the other star of Cooder's Havana sessions, is the ultimate living legend. The composer of hundreds of classic Cuban songs, two years ago he struck a new European recording deal, possibly the oldest act ever to be signed to a major label. Between Cooder and Segundo there exists a special chemistry, bordering

on reverence. "Compay is the last of the best," says the younger man. "As soon as he walked into the studio it all kicked in. He was the leader, the fulcrum. He knew the best songs and how to do them." Segundo could easily have

made a fortune in America or Europe. Top salsa stars such as Willie Colon have recorded his songs - yet he receives not a cent in royalties because of the American blockade. "But I would never leave Cuba. Here there is tranquillity, you can do whatever you want. Why would I want to go anywhere

Yet Cuban music is changing and Segundo and Gonzalez may be the last of a dying breed. Miami is only half an hour away and despite the blockade the American influence is huge. Juan d'Marcos, 42, who leads Cuba's top son band Sierra Maestra and who put together the Afro-Cuban All Stars, says: "Son has fused with a Cuban version of rap music and it is very poor quality, badly written, disordered and aggressive. I think

Cuban music is in crisis." Sooner or later, culturally something is certain to be lost.

Cooder is simply grateful that he got there before it is too late. "Music is a treasure hunt," he says. "You dig and dig and you find traces. But there I found it all."

 A Toda Cuba Le Gusta by the Afro-Cuban All Stars is out now, Introducing Ruben Gonzalez is released on May 12: Buena Vista Social Club is released on June 9 tall on World Circuit). The Afro-Cuban All Stars and Ruben Gonzalez begin their UK tour tomorrow at Watermans Arts Centre, Brentford (0181-568 1176)





**TELEVISION** 

Shakespeare for the people: two professionals and a whole estate of amateurs tackle Macbeth



Screen violence comes under the spotlight in Ben Elton's gripping play, *Popcorn*,

now in the West End

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■ TOMORROW A thousand days to go before the millennium, but is Britain already slipping behind the clock?



MONDAY

Special guest Ike Turner joins Joe Louis Walker at the Shepherds Bush Empire: we review the gig

TELEVISION: Eve-Ann Prentice on how the residents of a Birmingham housing estate came to perform Macbeth

# Getting into toil and trouble

estate bundle the beatenup head of a rival gang into a car, pour petrol on him and hurl a burning rag in through the car window.

Shortly afterwards, the microskirted wife of one of the victorious gangsters eggs on her bruise-knuckled and tattooed husband to challenge his boss and rule the estate himself.

The setting for this play, to be broadcast on BBC2 tomorrow night, is vile - a nightmare innercity sprawl of broken windows and derelict land, peopled by anarchic louts whose only hope of higher things is the National Lottery and the ability to wield a baseball bat with skull-smashing ferocity.

The script is tough and powerful, yet it has been familiar to theatre-

6 It's not heavyweight violence. I thought it would be like Reservoir Dogs ?

goers for hundreds of years. For the play is Macbeth, and it was filmed on the Ladywood housing estate in Birmingham last summer, with a multiracial cast including 130 local residents who worked alongside professional actors. This is Shakespeare of the people, for the people,

by the people.

Macbeth on the Estate keeps Shakespeare's words — albeit heavily pruned — but shifts the power struggle to a modern world where Duncan is a lager-swilling estate godfather who controls the locals with a gang of thugs led by Macbeth and Banquo. There are no witches, but three spooky children make the prediction that Macbeth will take Duncan's place, sparking

the blood-letting. James Frain of Mill on the Floss fame, and Susan Vidler, late of Trainspotting and Naked. Their portrayal of a jeans-clad Macbeth and his Lycra-laced wife are powerful and strangely empathy-earning. But what lifts the play into the realm of the memorable are the performances by the locals. These range from the young, old, black and white, whose faces mirror the horror of the power struggle evolving around them, to key roles played by unmarried mother Patsi Fox as Lady Macduff (with her real



Patsi Fox (Lady Macduff) with 19-month-old Paige: some residents feared the film would give the estate a false reputation for violence, but the BBC stressed that it was chosen because of its "peaceful atmosphere"

daughter Paige as her stage daughterj, and van driver Martin O'Brien

What makes the play even more remarkable is that most of the Ladywood estate tenants who took part were totally ignorant of the Bard's works before filming began.

Macbeth on the Estate is the brainchild of the documentarymaker Penny Woolcock, who gained her first experience of making television programmes only in her thirties, after a teenage pregnancy and a tough early life.

The script has been heavily cut, but the clever use of modern

unhinged? Woolcock uses images of an empty nursery to imply that Macbeth's wife is grieving for a dead baby and that the murders of Macduff's wife and his children

were too much for her. This latest venture marks Woolcock's debut in the field of drama, and is the natural offspring of her award-winning 1994 documentary. Shakespeare on the Estate, which featured local people

performing extracts.

Most of the play was filmed in images helps to provide possible

play initially caused friction be-tween the locals taking part and some residents who feared it would give the area a false reputation for violence. The BBC has been at pains to stress that the estate was chosen because of Ladywood's "peaceful atmosphere and community spirit". Ladywood, which has Clare Short as its MP, is

currently undergoing a £40 million regeneration programme.
Patsi Fox, 28, had never read or heard a line of Shakespeare before

explanations for some mystifying and around Cavell House, a dereaspects of Shakespeare's original. Why does the coolly calculating Lady Macbeth suddenly become public house. The making of the state and in the nearby Pied Piper public house. The making of the state and in the nearby Pied Piper public house. The making of the state and in the nearby Pied Piper public house. The making of the state and in the nearby Pied Piper public house. The making of the state and in the nearby Pied Piper public house. The making of the state and in the nearby Pied Piper public house. The making of the state he should be state and in the nearby Pied Piper public house. The making of the state he should be state and in the nearby Pied Piper public house. The making of the state he should be state and in the nearby Pied Piper public house. The making of the state he should be state and in the nearby Pied Piper public house. The making of the state he should be state and in the nearby Pied Piper public house. The making of the state he should be state and in the nearby Pied Piper public house. The making of the state he should be state and in the nearby Pied Piper public house. The making of the state he should be state and in the nearby Pied Piper public house. The making of the state he should be state he should be state he should be state and in the nearby Pied Piper public house. The making of the state he should be state he should be should be should be state he should be sho she and her partner, Patrick, were preparing to move from Ladywood to a new home in Winson Green. It was not the language which caused her the most difficulty, but singing I Will Survive in the pub at 7am in a scene depicting the wake following

Duncan's murder. Her 19-month-old daughter was not distressed by the violence in many scenes, she says, although there were real tears, captured on screen, when her mother fell to the floor after being felled in the play.

actress: "It's a secret ambition of mine. I could quite easily slot into that way of life. I find it very easy and natural. The best part of making the play for me was the experience of working with proper actors, the producer and the director - they can't take that experi-

ence away from me." O'Brien, 32, was so bored by the little Shakespeare he learnt at school that he opted to make props for the school drama department rather than take part. With Mac-

merely passing one kind of buck in order to make another,

or maybe his films do tell

really whetted my appetite for acting and for Shakespeare," he says. I find the language very rich. it explains everything perfectly, and today's language is so boring in comparison."

One television which will definitely be tuned in tomorrow night is more used to showing National Lottery draws and football matches - the set over the bar at the Pied

● Macbeth on the Estate is on BBC2 at

IF COLOURED lighting is needed to bring in the masses, then so be it. However, although I found the lighting plot for the Smith Quartet's New Works programme nei-ther helpful nor distracting, it did not help to fill the hall Why it should be thought

necessary to amplify a string quartet in the Purcell Room is another mystery - other ensembles seem to manage without - but this, too, is part of the show. In three of the four pieces heard it added nothing. save for the inevitable distant hum and the odd crackle. Would that some of the razzmatazz had, indeed, enhanced some of the rather uninspiring

fare on offer. Kevin Volans's Hunting: Gathering was particularly arid. Consisting of three movements, called Expeditions, the work is conceived as an unplanned journey. Musical fragments are presented in abundance "strung together in a pseudo-narrative". The second expedition, for example, begins with motifs redolent of

## Chance to shine wasted

CONCERT

Smith Quartet Purcell Room

the Italian Baroque concerto. but they eventually give way to much thrumming of repeated notes, never to return. An unplanned journey is one thing: a purposeless one quite another.

Simon Emmerson's Fields of Attraction, receiving its first performance, seemed more worth the effort and was certainly more coherent; it also featured some novel sonorities produced by sliding

unforgettable

it really works!

on the string. Steven Mackey's Great Crossing, Great Divide was commissioned by Netherlands Radio for the Smith Quartet, to be performed as an encore at the Great Crossing Festival in Amsterdam. More weighty than an encore piece might suggest, nevertheless, it barely registers in its three

Best of the bunch was the String Quartet No 3 (Le Miroir) by the Belgian composer, Walter Hus. The second movement, Reflet, continues, in varied form, the vigorous and impressive contrapuntal discourse of the first movement's central section. The first movement, Miroir I, begins and ends with the kind of crazy distortions you might expect in a seaside house of mirrors. But the tortured harmonies of the third movement and equally austere finale are latest quartet is serious busi-

MILLINGTON

performance

## Deep in the dark heart of Hollywood THEATRE

our years ago a gang in Manchester tortured a girl and set her on fire, repeating a phrase from Child's Play 3: "I'm Chucky — wanna play?" It is possible that one of Jamie Bulger's killers had seen the same film and the same demonic doll. I imagine that Quentin Taran-tino and Oliver Stone would regard horror flicks like that as irretrievably crude, yet Reservoir Dogs and Natural Born Killers raise rather similar worries. In their cool, stylish way, don't they slip into that part of the mind where scruple resides and leave just a few brain cells twisted out of

That's only one of several questions Ben Elton asks about America and, to a lesser extent, Britain in his stimulating, gripping new play; and maybe it is not the most

shape before making their

He touches on obsession with celebrity, the power of the passion for blaming others for passion or banning others for the wrongs they perpetrate as well as those they suffer. Popcorn ends with a Jacobean body count for which no modern-day Hamlet or Iago takes responsibility. I don't think I'm betraying secrets if I reveal that counterparts of reveal that counterparts of Horatio, the English ambassadors, the Polonius estate, the Elsinore social services and the Danish state are all being sued as the curtain falls.

Why? You can discover either by reading the novel Popcorn, which is more wideranging and elaborate, or by seeing the play Elton wrote at the same time, which is more powerful. After all, the theatre forces you to keep watching

Popcorn **Apollo** 

Delamitri as he returns to his Beverly Hills pad after winning an Oscar, only to find himself, his sexy escort, and finally his wife and daughter held hostage by two fans who happen also to be mass mura page and go for a walk, and, thanks to Laurence Boswell's taut, crisp production, you WORE WELFIT TO GO SO.

Forget their inexplicable Southern accents, and Patrick O'Kane and Dena Davis are excellent as mean, fattored Wayne and sentimental Scout. the drifters who have left scores of corpses in their wake. Danny Webb is not arrogant or disdainful enough for an auteur who believes that, despite a body count of 57, his movie Ordinary Americans is

help them to escape the electric chair by confessing on live TV that his movies inspired their ton has come far as a dramatist since his Gasping and Poor Cow, and makes the debate that ensues a perfectly logical happening. The only objection is that some of the content -

Wayne's "I'm your profit, you

a key contribution to culture:

but he comes into his own

when fear and anger are

needed. Rightly, his Bruce

reserves true horror for his

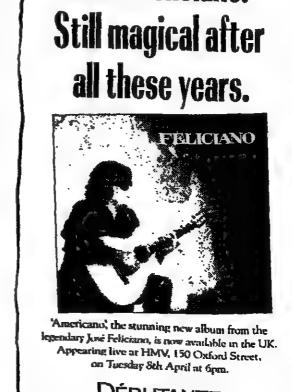
captors' direst threat: that he

exploit my sickness" — is less trailer-park talk than Elton earnestness. But though it occasionally embraces caricature; Popcorn is a subtler, more textured piece than it might seem. For instance, Wayne, with his dopey patriotism, and Scout, with her dim propriety, are indeed rather similar to the banal thugs you find in Reservoir Dogs and Pulp Fiction. Maybe Bruce is



Moment of truth: Danny Webb (Bruce Delamitri) and killers Patrick O'Kane (Wayne Hudson) and Dena Davis (Scout)

BENEDICT truths about America, or maybe a bit of both. Good for Ben NIGHTINGALE José Feliciano.



DÉBUTANTE Available on CD: 'Americana': 553 (00-2 m all good record

shaps and direct from the Music Store on 0161 232 1200.

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# LABOUR MANIFESTO



## Labour's gang of 24 waiting and hoping in the shadows

1: TONY BLAIR, 43, Labour leader: ster of his party but no expenence of government.

2: JOHN PRESCOTT, 59, deputy Labour leeder: a turbulent and rumbustious figure who will have a key Cabinet role. May have an overlord role ruling the regions, environment and industry.

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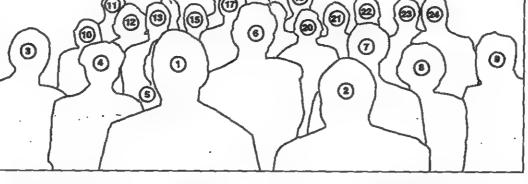
3: JACK STRAW, 50, Home Office: a moderniser and key Blairite who will be rewarded for his layalty.

4: ANN TAYLOR, 49, Leader of the House: may switch to become the first woman Chief Whip after winning plaudits for her handling of the

5: DAVID BLUNKETT, 49 (hidden behind Mr Blair), Education and Employment the star of the past 18 months who has transformed policy without tearing the party apart.

6: GORDON BROWN, 46, Shadow Chancelor: the second most powerful man in a Blair government as occupant of Number 11.

7: ROBIN COOK, 51, Foreign Office: standard-bearer of the left. He will be Blair's Foreign Secretary and the candidate of the left in any



future leadership contest.

B: MARGARET BECKETT, 54, Trade and Industry: once on the fringes, now back in favour.

9: FRANK DOBSON, 57, Environment: despite having laughed at all Blair's jokes at manifesto launch his future looks

10: MARJORIE MOWLAM, 47, Northern Ireland: a moderniser who of a notoriously sensitive portfolio.

11: CHRIS SMITH, 45, Health:

ing battles over finance. 12: DONALD DEWAR, 59, Chief Whip: a member of the inner-circle destined for high office at the very heart of a Blair Cabinet.

stock declining after constant los-

13: HARRIET HARMAN, 46, Social

Security: on the way down having never recovered from the fiasco of her choice of children's schools. 14: JACK CUNNINGHAM, 59,

Heritage; one of the few to have had experience of government. 15: ALISTAIR DARLING, Chief

Secretary to Treasury: highly regarded, polsed for advancement. 16: CLARE SHORT, 51, Overseas being reunited with her long-lost

prone, but skilfully handled bitter arguments in Welsh party over

18: GEORGE ROBERTSON, 49. Scotland: will be rewarded for taking the fiek over internal rows in Lebour Party over referendum on

19: GAVIN STRANG, 58, Agriculture: one of only four members ministerial office in the last Labour government. Expected casualty of 20: TOM CLARKE, 58; Disabled

Rights: has read the runes and already suggested he would be prepared to take a Minister of State

21: DAVID CLARK, 57, Detence: grey, safe, but completely dull. Unlikely to rise further than his

22: DEREK FOSTER, 59, Duchy of Lancaster: was given the job as the price for giving up Chief Whip's job. upsteirs to the Lords.

23: MICHAEL MEACHER, 57. Environmental Protection: unreconstructed old Left and early favourite

24: ANDREW SMITH, 46, Transport the unassuming face of Bialrism who is a safe pair of hands

A fresh start A party transformed Build a modern welfare state Lead reform in Europe

# Britain can and must do better

country with a great history. The British people are a great people. But I believe Britain can and must be better better schools, better hospitals, better ways of tackling crime, of building a modern welfare state, of equipping ourselves for a new world economy.

I want a Britain that is one nation, with shared values and purpose, where merit comes before privilege, run for the many not the lew, strong and sure of itself at home and abroad.

I want a Britain that does not shuffle into the new millennium afraid of the future, but strides into it with confidence.

I want to renew our country's faith in the ability of its government and politics to deliver this new Britain. I want to do it by making a limited set of important promises and achieving them. This is the purpose of the bond of trust I set out at the end of this introduction, in which ten specific commitments are put before you. Hold us to them. They are our covenant with

I want to renew faith in politics by being honest about the last 18 years. Some things the Conservatives got right. We will not change them. It is where they got things wrong that we will make change. We have no intention or desire to replace one set of dogmas by

I want to renew faith in politics through a government that will govern in the interest of the many. the broad majority of people who work hard, play by the rules, pay their dues and feel let down by a political system that gives the breaks to the few, to an elite at the top increasingly out of touch with

the rest of us. And I want, above all, to govern in a way that brings our country together, that unites our nation in facing the tough and dangerous

changed society in which we must live. I want a Britain which we all feel part of, in whose future we all have a stake, in which what I want for my own children I want for

A new politics The reason for having created new

Labour is to meet the challenges of a different world. The millennium symbolises a new era opening up for Britain. I am confident about our future prosperity, even optimistic, if we have the courage to change and use it to build a better Britain.
To accomplish this means more

than just a change of government. Our aim is no less than to set British political life on a new course for the future.

People are cynical about politics and distrustful of political promises. That is hardly surprising-There have been few more gross breaches of faith than when the Conservatives under Mr Major promised, before the election of 1992, that they would not raise taxes, but would cut them every year; and then went on to raise them by the largest amount in peacetime history starting in the first Budget after the election. The Exchange Rate Mechanism as the cornerstone of economic policy, Europe, health, crime, schools, sleaze - the broken promises are strewn across the country's

memory. The Conservatives' broken promises taint all politics. That is why we have made it our guiding rule not to promise what we cannot deliver: and to deliver what we promise. What follows is not the politics of a 100 days that dazzles for a time. then fizzles out. It is not the politics of a revolution, but of a fresh start, the patient rebuilding and renewing of this country — renewal that can take root and build over time.

That is one way in which politics in Britain will gain a new lease of

believe in Britain. It is a great | challenges of the new economy and | life. But there is another. We aim to put behind us the bitter political struggles of Left and Right that have form our country apart for too many decades. Many of these conflicts have no relevance whatsoever to the modern world - public versus private, bosses versus workers, middle class versus working class. It is time for this country to move on and move forward. We are proud of our history, proud of what we have achieved - but we must learn from our history, not be chained to it.

New Labour

The purpose of new Labour is to give Britain a different political choice: the choice between a failed Conservative Government, exhausted and divided in everything other than its desire to cling on to power, and a new and revitalised Labour Party that has been resolute in transforming itself into a party of the future.

We have rewritten our constitution, the new Clause IV, to put a commitment to enterprise alongside the commitment to justice. We have changed the way we make policy, and put our relations with the trade unions on a modern footing where they accept they can get fairness but no lavours from a Labour government. Our MPs are all now selected by ordinary party members, not small committees or pressure groups. The membership itself has doubled, to over 400,000, with half the members having joined since the last election.

Te submitted our draft manifesto, New Labour New Life for Britain, to a ballot of all our members, 95 per cent of whom gave it their express endorsement. We are a national party, supported today by people from all walks of life, from the successful businessman or woman to the pensioner on a council estate. Young people have flooded in to join us in what is the fastest growing youth section of any Centre Left politics fastest growing youth section of any political party in the West.

The vision

We are a broad-based movement for progress and justice. New Labour is the political arm of none other than the British people as a whole. Our values are the same: the equal worth of all, with no one cast aside: fairness and justice within strong communities.

But we have liberated these values from outdated dogma or doctrine, and we have applied these values to the modern world.

I want a country in which people get on, do well, make a success of their lives. I have no time for the politics of envy. We need more successful entrepreneurs, not fewer of them. But these life-chances should be for all the people. And I want a society in which ambition and compassion are seen as partners not opposites - where we value public service as well as

material wealth. New Labour believes in a society where we do not simply pursue our own individual aims but where we hold many aims in common and work together to achieve them. How we build the industry and employment opportunities of the future; how we tackle the division and inequality in our society; how we care for and enhance our environment and quality of life; how we develop modern education and health services; how we create communities that are safe, where mutual respect and tolerance are the order of the day. These are things we must achieve together as

а соидпу. The vision is one of national renewal, a country with drive, nurnose and energy. A Britain equipped to prosper in a global economy of technological change: with a modern welfare state; its politics more accountable; and confident of its place in the world. | of its 30 years of application.

In each area of policy a new and distinctive approach has been mapped out, one that differs both from the solutions of the old Left and those of the Conservative Right. This is why new Labour is new. We believe in the strength of our values, but we recognise also that the policies of 1997 cannot be those of 1947 or 1967. More detailed policy has been produced by us than by any opposition in history. Our direction and destination are

The old Left would have sought state control of industry. The Conservative Right is content to leave all to the market. We reject both approaches. Government and industry must work together to achieve key objectives aimed at enhancing the dynamism of the market, not undermining it.

In industrial relations, we make it clear that there will be no return to flying pickets, secondary action. strikes with no ballots or the trade union law of the 1970s. There will instead be basic minimum rights for the individual at the workplace. where our aim is partnership, not conflict, between employers and employees.

In economic management, we accept the global economy as a reality and reject the isolationism and "go-it-alone" policies of the extremes of Right or Left.

In education, we reject both the idea of a return to the 11-plus and the monolithic comprehensive schools that take no account of children's differing abilities. Instead we favour all-in schooling which identifies the distinct abilities of individual pupils and organises them in classes to maximise their progress in individual subjects. In this way we modernise the comprehensive principle, learning from the experience

In health policy, we will safeguard the basic principles of the NHS, which we founded, but will not return to the top-down manage-ment of the 1970s. So we will keep the planning and provision of healthcare separate, but put planning on a longer-term, decentralised and more co-operative basis. The key is to root out unnecessary administrative cost, and to spend money on the right things frontline care.

n crime, we believe in personal responsibility and in punishing crime, but also tackling its underlying causes - so, tough on crime, tough on the causes of crime, different from the Labour approach of the past and the Tory policy of roday.

Over-centralisation of government and lack of accountability was a problem in governments of both Left and Right. Labour is committed to the democratic renewal of our country through decentralisation and the elimination of excessive government

In addition, we will face up to the new issues that confront us. We will be the party of welfare reform. In consultation and partnership with the people, we will design a modern welfare state based on rights and duties going together, fit for the modern world.

We will stand up for Britain's interests in Europe after the shambles of the last six years, but, more than that, we will lead a campaign for reform in Europe. Europe isn't working in the way this country and Europe need. But to lead means to be involved, to be constructive, to be capable of getting our own way.

We will put concern for the environment at the heart of policymaking, so that it is not an add-on extra, but informs the whole of government, from housing and warming and international

We will search out at every turn new ways and new ideas to tackle the new issues: how to encourage more flexible working hours and practices to suit employees and imployers alike; how to harness the huge potential of the new information technology: how to simplify the processes of the government machine: how to put public and private sector together in partnership to give us the infrastructure and transport system we need.

We will be a radical government. But the definition of radicalism will not be that of doctrine, whether of Left or Right, but of achievement. New Labour is a party of ideas and ideals but not of outdated ideology. What counts is what works. The objectives are radical. The means will be modern.

So the party is transformed. The vision is clear. And from that vision stems a modern programme of change and renewal for Britain. We understand that after 18 years of one-party rule, people want change, believe that it is necessary for the country and for democracy, but require faith to make the

change. We therefore set out in the manifesto that follows ten commitments, commitments that form our bond of trust with the people. They are specific. They are real, Judge us on them. Have trust in us and we

will repay that trust. Our mission in politics is to rebuild this bond of trust between government and the people. That is the only way democracy can flourish. I pledge to Britain a govern-ment which shares their hopes. which understands their fears, and which will work as partners with and for all our people, not just the privileged few. This is our contract with the people.

Continued on next page

We will make education our No 1 priority:

☐ Cut classes to 30 or under for 5, 6 and 7 years ☐ Nursery places for all four year-olds ☐ Attack low standards in schools

☐ Access to computer technology
☐ Lifelong learning through a new University for Industry

☐ More spending on education as the cost of unemployment falls

#### EDUCATION

EDUCATION has been the Tories' biggest failure. It is Labour's number one priority.
It is not just good for the individual. It

is an economic necessity for the nation. We will compete successfully on the basis of quality or not at all. And quality

basis of quality or not at all. And quality comes from developing the potential of all our people. It is the people who are our greatest natural asset. We will ensure they can fulfil their potential. Nearly half of 11 year-olds in England and Wales fail to reach expected standards in English and maths. Britain has a smaller share of 17 and 18 year-olds in full-time education than any major industrial nation. Nearly two-thirds of the British workforce lack vocational qualifications.

There are excellent schools in Britain's state education system. But far too many children are denied the opportunity to succeed. Our task is to raise the

standards of every school.

We will put behind us the old arguments that have bedevilled education in this country. We reject the Tories' obsession with school structures: all parents should be offered real choice through good quality schools, each with its own strengths and individual ethos.
There should be no return to the 11-plus. It divides children into successes and

failures at far too early an age. We must modernise comprehensive achools. Children are not all of the same ability, nor do they learn at the same speed. That means settingthildren in classes to maximise progress, for the benefit of high-filers and slower learners alike. The focus must be on levelling up.

not levelling down.

With Labour, the Department for Education and Employment will become a leading office of state. It will give a strong and consistent lead to help raise standards in every school. Standards, more than structures, are the key to success. Labour will never put dogma before children's education. Our approach will be to intervene where there are problems, not where schools are

Labour will never force the abolition of good schools whether in the private or state sector. Any changes in the admissions policies of grammar schools will be decided by local parents. Church schools will retain their distinctive

religious ethos.

We wish to build bridges wherever we can across education divides. The educational apartheid created by the public/private divide diminishes the whole education system.

#### Tero tolerance of

Every school has the capacity to succeed. All Local Education Authorities (LEAs) must demonstrate that every school is improving. For those falling schools unable to improve, ministers will order start afresh on the same site. Where good schools and bad schools co-exist allow one school to take over the other to set the underperforming school on a

#### ■ Quality nursery education guar-anteed for all four year-olds

Nursery vouchers have been proven not to work. They are costly and do not generate more quality nursery places. We will use the money saved by scrapping nursery vouchers to guar-antee places for four year-olds. We will invite selected local authorities to pilot early excellence centres combining education and care for the under-fives. We will set targets for universal provision for three year-olds whose parents want

#### New focus on standards

Primary schools are the key to mastering the basics and developing in every

child an eagerness to learn.

Every school needs baseline assessment of pupils when they enter the school, and a year-on-year target for

We will reduce class sizes for five, six and seven year-olds to 30 or under, by phasing out the assisted places scheme, the cost of which is set to rise to £180

We must recognise the three T's for what they are — building blocks of all learning that must be taught better. We will achieve this by improving the skills of the teaching force; ensuring a stronger ger focus on literacy in the curriculum; and piloting literacy summer schools to meet our new target that within a decade every child leaves primary school with a reading age of at least 11 (barely half do

Our numeracy taskforce will develop equally ambitious targets. We will encourage use of the most effective teaching methods, including phonics for reading and whole class interactive teaching for maths.

#### M Attacking educational disadvastage

No matter where a school is, Labour will No matter where a school is, talout with not tolerate under-achievement. Public/private partnerships will im-prove the condition of school buildings. There will be education action zones to

attack low standards by recruiting the best teachers and head teachers to the state of the s enhance their studies by acquiring knowledge and experience within in-

dustry and commerce.

To attack under achievement in urban areas, we have developed a new scheme with the Premier League. In partner while between central government, local government and fooball clubs, study support centres will be set up at Premier League grounds for the benefit of local children. The scheme will be launched on a pilor basis during the 1997/8 season. We support the greatest possible integration into mainstream education while recognising that specialist facil-ities are essential to meet particular

#### M Realising the potential of new technology

Labour is the pioneer of new thinking. We have agreed with British Telecom and the cable companies that they will wire up schools, libraries, colleges and hospitals to the information superighway tree of charge. We have also secured agreement in make access charges as low as possible. For the Internet we plan a National

Grid for Learning, franchised as a public/private partnership, which will bring to teachers up to date materials to enhance their skills, and to children high-quality educational materials. We will use lottery money to improve the skills of existing teachers in information

technology.

In opposition, Labour set up the independent Stevenson Commission to promote access for children to new technology. Its recent report is a challenging programme for the future. We are urgently examining how to implement its plans, in particular the development of educational software through a grading system which will provide schools with guarantees of product quality; and the provision for every child of an individual e-mail address. An independent standing com-mittee will continue to advise us on the implementation of our plans

#### The role of parents

We will increase the powers and responsibilities of parents. There will be more parent governors and, for the first time, parent representatives on LEAs.

A major objective is promote a

culture of responsibility for learning within the family, through contracts between all schools and parents, defining the responsibilities of each. National guidelines will establish minimum periode. ods for homework for primary and secondary school pupils. Teachers will be entitled to positive

support from perents to promote good attendance and sound discipline. Schools suffer from unruly and disruptive pupils. Exclusion or suspension may sometimes be necessary. We will, however, pilot new pupil referral units so that schools are protected but these provides are not less to education at the pupils are not lost to education or the

#### ■ New job description for LEAs

The judge and jury of LEA performance will be their contribution to raising

LEAs are closer to schools than central government, and have the au-thority of being locally elected. But they will be required to devolve nower, and more of their budgets, to heads and governors. LEA performance will be inspected by Ofsted and the Audit Commission. Where authorities are failing, the Secretary of State may suspend the relevant powers of the LEA

#### Schools that are now grant maintained

will prosper with Labour's proposals, as will every school.

Tory claims that Labour will close

hese schools are false. The system of funding will not discriminate unfairly either between schools or between entire between schools or between pupils. LEAs will be represented on governing bodies, but will not control them. We support guidelines for open and fair admissions, along the lines of those introduced in 1993; but we will also provide a right of appeal to an independent panel in disputed cases.

#### M-Teachers: pressure and support

Schools are critically dependent on the quality of all staff. The majority of teachers are skilful and dedicated, but some fall short. We will improve teacher training, and ensure that all teachers qualify, to ensure their suitability for

There will be a general teaching council to speak for and raise standards in the profession. We will create a new grade of teachers to recognise the best. There will, however, be speedy, but fair, procedures to remove teachers who

cannot do the job.

The strength of a school is critically dependent on the quality of its head. We will establish mandatory qualifications for the post. A head macher will be appointed to a position only when fully trained to accept the responsibility.

The improvement and expansion needed cannot be funded out of general taxation. Our proposals for funding have been made to the Dearing Com-mittee, in line with successful policies

The costs of student maintenance should be repaid by graduates on an income-related basis, from the career success to which higher education has contributed. The current system is badly administered and payback periods are too short. We will provide efficient administration, with fairness ensured

#### Lifelong learning

We must learn throughout life, to retain employment through new and improved skills. We will promote adult learning both at work and in the critical sector of

In schools and colleges, we support broader A-levels and upgraded voca-tional qualifications, underprined by

rigorous standards and key skills. Employers have the primary responsibility for training their workforces in job-related skills. But individuals should be given the power to invest in training. We will invest public money for training in Individual Learning Accounts which individuals - for example women returning to the labour force - can then



Moral leader: Tony Blair leaving home yesterday for the launch of his manifesto

## This is Labour's five-year contract with the people

Our new University for Industry, collaborating with the Open University, will bring new opportunities to adults seeking to develop their potential. This

will bring government, industry and education together to create a new

resource whose remit will be to use new

technology to enhance skills and edu-cation. The University for Industry will

be a public/private partnership.

commissioning software and developing the links to extend lifelong learning.

OVER the five years of a Labour government:

l: Education will be our number one priority, and we will increase the share of national income spent on education as we decrease it on the bills of economic and social failure.

2: There will be no increase in the basic or top rates of 3: We will provide stable economic growth with low inflation, and promote dynamic and competitive business and industry at home and abroad

4: We will get 250,000 young unemployed off benefit and into work. 5: We will rebuild the NHS, reducing spending on administration and increasing spending on patient

6: We will be tough on crime and tough on the causes of crime, and halve the time it takes persistent juvenile offenders to come to court.

7: We will help build strong families and strong communities, and lay the foundations of a modern welfare state in pensions and community care

use to gain the skills they want. We will

kickstart the programme for up to a million people, using £150 million of TEC money which could be better used and which would provide a contribution of £150, alongside individuals making

small investments. Employers will be

encouraged to make voluntary contribu-tions. We will also promote the extension

of the Investors in People Initiative into

many more small firms.

8: We will safeguard our environment, and develop an integrated transport policy to fight congestion and

9: We will clean up politics, decentralise political power throughout the United Kingdom and put the unding of political parties on a proper and 10: We will give Britain the leadership in Europe

which Britain and Europe need We have modernised the Labour Party and we will

modernise Britain. This means knowing where we want to go: being clear-headed about the country's future; telling the truth; making tough choices; insisting that all parts of the public sector live within their means; taking on vested interests that hold people back; standing up to unreasonable demands from any quarter; and being prepared to give a moral ad where government has responsibilities it should Britain does deserve better. And new Labour will be

better for Britain.

#### Government spending on education

The Conservatives have cut spending on education as a share of national income by the equivalent of more than £3 billion as spending on the bills of economic and social failure has risen. We are committed to reversing this trend of spending. Over the course of a five-year Parlament, as we cut the costs of economic and social failure, we will raise the income spent on education.

## We will promote personal prosperity for all,

Economic stability to promote investment Tough inflation target, mortgage rates as low as possible

Stick for two years within existing spending limits

Five-year piedge: no increase in income tax

Long-term objective of 10p starting rate tax ☐ Early Budget to get people off welfare and into work

#### PROSPERITY

THE Conservatives have in 18 years created the two longest, deepest recessions this century. We have experienced the slowest average growth rate of any similar period since the Second World War. There has been a fundamental failure to tackle the underlying causes of inflation, of low growth and of un-employment. These are:

I too much economic instability, with wild swings from boom to bust

D too little investment in education and skills, and in the application of new

technologies

[] too few opportunities to find jobs. too narrow an industrial base

D and too little sense of common purpose in the workplace or across the nution. Britain can do better. We must build on the British qualities of inventiveness. creativity and adaptability. New Labours objective is to improve living standards for the many, not just the few. Business can and must succeed in raising productivity. This requires a combination of a skilled and educated workforce with investment in the latest

workforce with investment in the latest technological innovations, as the route to higher wages and employment.

An explicit objective of a Labour government will be to raise the trend rate of growth by strengthening our wealth-creating base. We will nurture investment in industry, skills, infra-structure and new sechnologies. And we will attack long-term internalisment. will attack long-term unemployment especially among young people. Our goal will be educational and employment opportunities for all. Economis stability is the essential platform for sustained growth. In a global economy the route to growth is stability not

inflation. The priority must be stable.

low growth are the same an econom and industrial base that remains weak. Government cannot solve all economic problems or end the economic cycle. But by spending wisely and taxing fairly, government can help tackle the prob-lems. Our goals are low inflation, rising living standards and high and stable levels of employment.

#### Spending and tax: new Labour's approach

The myth that the solution to every problem is increased spending has been comprehensively dispelled under the Conservatives. Spending has risen. But more spending has brought neither greater fairness nor less poverty. Quite the reverse our society is more divided than it has been for generations. The level of public spending is no longer the best measure of the effectiveness of government action in the public interest. It is what money is actually spent on that counts more than how much money is

John Major, The public finances remain weak. A new Labour government will give inanediate high priority to seeing how public money can be better used. New Labour will be wise spenders, not big spenders. We will work in partnership with the private sector to achieve our goals. We will ask about public spending the first question that a manager in any company would ask can existing resources be used more effectively to meet our priorities? And because efficiency and value for money are central, ministers will be required to

The national debt has doubled under

save before they spend.
Save to invest is our approach, not lax. The increase in taxes under the Conservatives is the most dramatic evidence of economic failure. Since 1992 the typical family has paid more than | No risks with inflution

£2,000 in extra taxes - the biggest tax hike in peacetime history, breaking every promise made by John Major at the last election. The tragedy is that those hardest hit are least able to pay. That is why we strongly opposed the imposition of VAT on fuel: it was Labour

that stopped the government from increasing VAT on fuel to 17.5 per cent. Taxation is not neutral in the way it raises revenue. How and what governments tax sends clear signals about the economic activities they believe should be encouraged or discouraged, and the Values they wish to entrench in society.

Just as, for example, work should be encouraged through the tax system, environmental pollution should be

discouraged.
New Labour will establish a new trust on tax with the British people. The promises we make we will keep. The principles that will underpin our tax olicy are clear: nities and work incentives for all

to promote savings and investment and to be fair and be seen to be fair.

New Labour is not about high taxes on ordinary families. It is about social iustice and a fair deal. New Labour therefore makes the follow-

There will be no return to the penal tax rates that existed under both Labour and Conservative governments in the

ing economic pledges.

we are pledged not to raise the basic or top rates of income tax throughout the

Our long-term objective is a lower starting rate of income tax of ten pence in the pound. Reducing the high marginal rates at the bottom end of the earning scale often 70 or 80 per cent is not only fair but desirable to encourage

employment.

This goal will benefit the many, not the few. It is in sharp contrast to the Tory goal of abolishing capital gains and inheritance tax, at least half the benefit of which will go to the richest 5,000 families in the goant text. families in the country.

We will cut VAT on fuel to 5 per cent. the lowest level allowed. We renew our pledge not to extend VAT to food, childrens clothes, books

and newspapers and public transport We will also examine the interaction of the tax and benefits systems so that they can be streamlined and modernised, so as to fulfil our objectives of promoting work incentives, reducing poverty and welfare dependency, and strengthening community and family

llie.

We will match the current target for low and stable initiation of 25 per cent or less. We will reform the Bank of England to ensure that decision-making on monetary policy is more effective, open, accountable and free from shortterm political manipulation.

#### Strict roles for

government borrowing We will enforce the golden rule of public spending over the economic cycle, we will only borrow to invest and not to fund current expenditure.

We will ensure that - over the economic cycle - public debt as a proportion of national income is at a stable and prudent level.

## Stick to planned public spending allocations for the first two years of office

Our decisions have not been taken lightly. They are a recognition of Conservative mismanagement of the nublic finances. For the next two years mental ceilings for spending already announced. We will resist unreasonable demands on the public purse, including any unreasonable public sector pay

#### Switch spending from economic failure to investment

We will conduct a spending review and departmental reviews to assess how to use resources better, while rooting out waste and inefficiency in public spending. Labour priorities in public spending are different from Tory priorities.

#### Tax reform to promote

We will introduce a new individual We will introduce a new individual savings account and extend the principle of TESSAs and PEPs to promote long-term saving. We will review the corporate and capital gains tax regimes to see how the tax system can promote greater long-term investment. greater long-term investment.

#### Welfare-to-work Budge

We will introduce a Budget within two months after the election to begin the task of equipping the British economy and reforming the welfare state to get young people and the long-term unemployed back to work. This welfare-towork programme will be funded by a windfall levy on the excess profits of the privatised utilities, introduced in this Budget after we have consulted the regulators.

We will help create successful and profitable businesses

☐ Backing business: skills, infrastructure, new markets

Gains for consumers with tough

competition law New measures to help small businesses National minimum wage to tackle low pay

☐ Boost local economic growth with Regional Development Agencies A strong and effective voice in Europe

#### BUSINESS

NEW Labour offers business a new deal for the future, We will leave intact the main changes of the 1980s in industrial relations and enterprise. We see healthy profits as an essential motor of a profits as an essential motor of a dynamic market economy, and believe they depend on quality products, innovaive entrepreneurs and skilled employees. We will build a new partnership with business to improve the competitiveness of industry for the 21st century, leading to faster growth.

Many of the fundamentals of the Bridsh economy are still weak. Low pay and low skills go together: insecurity is the consequence of economic instability:

the consequence of economic instability; the absence of quality jobs is a product of the weakness of our industrial base; we suffer from both high unemployment and skills shortages. There is no future for Britain as a low-wage economy: we cannot compete on wages with countries paying a tenth of British wages.

We need to win on higher quality, skill, innovation and reliability. With

will find this country an attractive and profitable place to do business.

New Labour believes in a flexible labour market that serves employers and employees alike. But flexibility alone is not enough. We need flexibility Dohus higher skills and higher

standards in our schools and colleges

plus policies to ensure economic plus partnership with business to

raise investment in infrastructure, science and research and to back small

reform Europe, in place of the current policy of drift and disengagement from our largest market pitus guaranteeing Britain's mem-bership of the single market — indeed opening up markets inside and outside the EU - helping make Britain an

plus minimum standards of fair treatment, including a national mini-Dolus an imaginative welfare-towork programme to put long-term unemployed back to work and to cut social security costs.

attractive place to do business

#### A reformed and tougher

competition law Competitiveness abroad must begin with competition at home. Effective competition can bring value and quality to consumers. As an early priority w will reform Britain's competition law. We will adopt a tough prohibitiveapproach to deter anti-competitive

practices.
In the utility industries we will promote competition wherever possible. Where competition is not an effective discipline, for example in the water industry which has a poor environ-mental record and has in most cases been a tax-free zone, we will pursue tough, efficient regulation in the interests of customers, and, in the case of water, in the interests of the environment as well. We recognise the need for open and predictable regulation which is fuir both to consumers and to shareholders and at the same time provides incentives for managers to innovate and improve efficiency.

#### Reinvigorate the Private Finance Initiative

The country's infrastructure dangerously run down: parts of our road and rail network are seriously neglected, and all too often our urban environment has been allowed to

Labour pioneered the idea of publication private partnerships, it is Labour local authorities which have done most to create these partnerships at local level. A Labour government will overcome the problems that have plagued the PFI at a national level. We will set priorities herween projects, saving time and expense; we will seek a realistic allocation of risk between the partners to a project; and we will ensure that best practice is spread throughout govern-ment. We will aim to simplify and speed

We will ensure that self-financing commercial organisations within the public sector — the Post Office is a prime example — are given greater commer-cial freedom to make the most of new opportunities.

#### ■ Backing small business

The number of small employers has declined by half a million since 1990. Support for small businesses will have a major role in our plans for economic growth. We will cut unnecessary red tape: provide for statutory interest on late payment of debts; improve support for high-tech start-ups; improve the quality and relevance of advice and training through a reformed Business Links network and the University for industry: and assist firms to enter overseas markets more effectively.

#### Local economic growth

Prosperity needs to be built from the bottom up. We will establish one-stop regional development agencies to coordinate regional economic dev-elopment, help small business and encourage inward investment. Many regions are taking informal steps to this end and they will be supported.

Estrengthen our capability in science, sectuology and design. The UK must be positively committed to the global pursuit of new knowledge, with a strong science base in our universities and centres of excellence leading the world. The Dearing Committee of the programment of the p mittee represents a significant opportunity to promote high-quality standards in science teaching and research throughout UK higher education. We support a collaborative approach beween researchers and business, spreading the use of new technology and good design, and exploiting our own inventions to boost business in the UK.

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#### ■ Promoting new green

There is huge potential to develop Britain's environmental technology industries to create jobs, win exports and

orntect the environment Effective environmental management is an increasingly important component of modern business practice. We sup-port a major push to promote energy tion of home energy efficiency schemes. linked to our environment taskforce for the under-25s. We are committed to an energy policy designed to promote cleaner, more efficient energy use and production, including a new and strong drive to develop renewable energy sources such as solar and wind energy. and combined heat and power. We see no economic case for the building of any

#### ■ Key elements of the 1980s

trade union reforms to stay There must be minimum standards for the individual at work, including a minimum wage, within a flexible labour market. We need a sensible balance in industriai relations (aw - rights and

duties go together.
The key elements of the trade union legislation of the 1980s will stay — on ballots, picketing and industrial action. People should be free to join or not to join a union. Where they do decide to join, and where a majority of the relevant workforce vote in a ballor for the union to represent them, the union should be recognised. This promotes stable industrial relations. There will be full consultation on the most effective means of implementing this proposal.

Partnership at work

The best companies recognise their employees as partners in the enterprise. Employees whose conditions are good are more committed to their companies and are more productive. Many unions and employers are embracing partner-ship in place of conflict. Government should welcome this.

We are keen to encourage a variety of forms of parmership and enterprise, spreading ownership and encouraging more employees to become owners through Employee Share Ownership Plans. We support too the Social Chapter of the EU, but will deploy our influence in Europe to ensure that it develops so as to promote employability and competitiveness, not inflexibility.

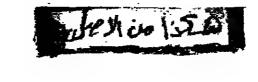
#### A sensibly set national

minimum wage
There should be a statutory level
beneath which pay should not fall
beneath which pay should not on with the minimum wage decided not on the basis of a rigid formula but

the basis of a rigid formula but according to the economic circumstances of the time and with the advice of an independent low pay commission, whose membership will include representatives of employers, including small business, and employees.

Every modern industrial country has a minimum wage, including the US and Japan. Britain used to have minimum wages through the Wages Councils. Introduced sensibly, the minimum wage will remove the worst excesses of low will remove the worst excesses of low pay (and be of particular benefit to women). While cutting some of the massive E4 billion benefits bill by which the taxpayer subsidises companies that pay very low wages.

Continued on next page



## NHS for the future Tough on crime Dignity in retirement Improve the Underground

We will get the unemployed from welfare to work

☐ Stop the growth of an underclassin Britain ☐ 250,000 young unemployed off benefit and into

 $\square$  Tax cuts for employers who create new jobs for the long-term unemployed

☐ Effective help for lone parents

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

There are over one million fewer jobs in Britain than in 1990. One in five families has no one working. One million single mothers are trapped on benefits. There is a wider gap between rich and poor than for generations.

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OW pay

We are determined not to continue down the road of a permanent have not class, unemployed and disaffected from society. Our long-term objective is high and stable levels of employment. This is the true meaning of a stakeholder economy where everyone has a stake in society and owes responsibilities to it.

The best way to tackle poverty is to help people into jobs ten) jobs. The unemployed have a responsibility to take up the opportunity of training places or work, but these must be real opportunities. The governments workfare proposals with a success rate of one in ten fail this test. Labours welfare-to-work programme

will anack unemployment and break the spiral of excalating spending on social security. A one-off windfall levy on the excess profits of the privarised utilities will fund our ambirious programme.

M Every young person unemployed for more than six months in a job or

We will give 250,000 under-25s onportunities for work, education and training. Four options will be on offer, each involving day-release education or training leading to a qualification:

Diprivate-sector joh: employers will be ulfored a \*oOo-week rebate for six

work with a non-profit voluntary sector employer, paying a weekly wage, equivalent to benefit plus a fixed sum for

Difull-time study for young people without qualifications on an approved a job with the environment taskforce, linked to Labours dilzens

service programme. Rights and responsibilities must go hand in hand, without a fifth option of

Every 16 and 17 year-old on the road to a proper qualification by the year

Nearly a third of young people do not achieve an NVQ level two qualification

by age 19. All young people will be offered part-time or full-time education after the age of to. Any under-18 year-old in a jnb will have the right to study on an approved course for qualifications at college. We will replace the failed Youth Training scheme with our new Target 2000 programme, offering young people high-quality education and training.

Action on long-term paemployment New partnerships between government and business, fully involving local authorities and the voluntary sector, will attack long-term joblessness. We will encourage employers to take on those who have suffered unemployment for more than two years with a 75-a-week tax relate paid for six months, financed has refere pain for six numers, monacousts by the windfall levy. Our programme for the phased release of past receipts from council house sales will provide new jobs in the construction industry.

Lone parepts into work Today the main connection between unemployed lone parents and the state is their benefits. Most lune parents want to work, but are given no help to find it. New Labour has a positive policy. Once the youngest child is in the second term of full-time school, lone parents will be offered advice by a preactive Engloyment Service to develop a package of job search, training and after-school care to help them off benefit

Costomised, personalised services We layour initiatives with new combina-tions of available benefits to suit individual circumstances. In new and innovative Employment Zones; personal ob accounts will combine money currently available for benefits and training, to offer the unemployed new options leading to work and independence. We will co-ordinate benefits, employment and career services, and utilise new technology to improve their quality and

Frank

Just as we owe it to the taxpayer to crack down on tax avoidance, so we must crack down on dishonesty in the benefit system. We will start with a clampdown on Housing Benefit fraud, estimated to cost £2 billion a year, and will maintain action against benefit fraud of all kinds.

#### We will save the NHS

☐ 100,000 people off waiting lists ☐ End the Tory internal market End waiting for cancer surgery ☐ Tough quality targets for hospitals ☐ independent food standards agency New public health drive ☐ Raise spending in real terms every year and spend the money on patients not bureaucracy

#### HEALTH SERVICE

It is under threat from the Conservatives. We want to save and modernise

But If the Conservatives are elected again there may well not be an NHS in five years time - neither national nor comprehensive. Labour commits itself anew to the historic principle: that if you are ill or injured there will be a Nadonal Health Service there to helps and access to it will be based on need and need alone - not on your ability to pay, or on who your GP happens to be or on where

In 1990 the Conservatives imposed on the NHS a complex internal market of hospitals competing to win contracts from health authorities and fundholding GPs. The result is an NHS strangle by costly red tape, with every individual transaction the subject of a separate invoice. After six years, bureaucracy swallows an extra £1.5 billion per year. there are 20,000 more managers and 50,000 fewer nurses on the wurds; and more than one million people are on waiting lists. The Government has consistently failed to meet even its own

health targets. There can be no return to top-down management, but Labour will end the Conservatives' internal market in healthcare. The planning and provision of care are necessary and distinct functions, and will remain so. But under the Tories, the administrative costs of purchasing care have undermined provision and the market system has distorted clinical priorities. Labour will cut costs by removing the bureaucrarie processes of the internal market.

The savings achieved will go on direct care for patients. As a start, the first £100 million saved will treat an extra 100,000 patients. We will end waiting for cancer surgery, thereby helping thousands of women waiting for breast cancer

Primary care will play a lead role In recent years. GPs have gained power on behalf of their patients in a changed relationship with consultants, and we support this. But the development of GP fundholding has also brought disadvantages. Decision-making has been fragmented. Administrative costs have grown. And a two-tier service has

resulted. Labour will retain the lead role for primary care but remove the disadvantages that have come from the present system. GPs and nurses will take the lead in combining together locally to plan local health services more efficiently for all the patients in their area. This will enable all GPs in an area to bring their combined strength to bear upon individual hospitals to secure higher standards of patient provision. In making this change, we will build on the existing collaborative schemes which

already serve 14 million people. The current system of year-on-year contracts is costly and unstable. We will introduce three to five year agreements between the local primary care teams and hospitals. Hospitals will then he bener able to plan work at full capacity and co-operate to enhance patient

Higher-quality services for patients

LABOUR created the NHS 50 years ago. | Hospitals will retain their autonomy over day-to-day administrative functions, but, as part of the NHS, they will be required to meet high-quality standards in the provision of care. Manage ment will be held to account for performance levels. Boards will become more representative of the local commu

nities they serve. A new patients' charter will concentrate on the quality and success of treatment. The Toriesto-called Efficiency Index counts the number of patient épisodes, not the quality or success of treatment. With Labour, the measure will be quality of outcome, itself an incentive for effectiveness. As part of our concern to ensure quality, we will work rowards the elimination of mixed-

sex words.

Health authorities will become the guardians of high standards. They will monitor services, spread best practice and ensure rising standards of care.

The Tury attempt to use private money to build hospitals has failed to deliver. Labour will overcome the problems that have plagued the Private Finance Initiative, end the delays, sort out the confusion and develop new forms of public/private partnership that work better and protect the interests of the NHS. Labour is opposed to the privatisation of clinical services which is being actively promoted by the Conservatives.

Labour will promote new developments in telemedicine - bringing experi-advice from regional centres of exrelience to neighbourhood level using new rechnology.

12 Good health

A new minister for public health will arrack, the root causes of ill health, and so improve lives and save the NHS money. Labour will set new goals for improving the overall health of the nation which recognise the impact that poverty, poor housing, unemployment and a polluted ment have on health.

Smoking is the greatest single cause of preventable illness and premature death in the UK. We will therefore ban tobacco

advertising. Lahour will establish an independent food standards agency. The E3.5 billion BSE crisis and the E.coli outbreak which resulted in serious loss of life, have made unanswerable the case for the independent agency we have proposed.

■ NHS spending
The Conservatives have wasted spending on the NHS. We will do better. We will raise spending on the NHS in real terms every year and put the money towards patient care. And a greater proportion of every pound spent will go on putient care not bureaucracy.

国 An NHS for the luture

The NHS requires continuity as well as change, or the system cannot cope. There must be pilots to ensure that change works. And there must be flexibility, not rigid prescription, if innovation is to floorish.

Our fundamental purpose is simple but hugely important to restore the NHS as a public service working cooperatively for patients, but a commercial husiness driven by competition.



causes of crime

☐ Fast-track punishment for persistent young offenders ☐ Reform Crown Prosecution Service to convict more criminals

Police on the beat not pushing paper Crackdown on petty crimes and disorder Fresh parliamentary vote to ban all handguns

#### LAW AND ORDER

UNDER the Conservatives, crime has doubled and many more criminals get away with their crimes: the number of people convicted has fallen by a third, with only one crime in 50 leading to a conviction. This is the worst record of any government since the Second World War and for England and Wales the worst record of any major industrialised country. Last year alone violent crime rose II per cent.

We propose a new approach to law and order: tough on crime and tough on the causes of crime. We insist on individual responsibility for crime, and will attack the causes of crime by our measures to relieve social deprivation.

The police have our strong support. They are in the front line of the fight against crime and disorder. The Conservatives have broken their 1992 general election pledge to provide an extra 1,000 police officers. We will relieve the police of unnecessary bureaucratic burdens to get more officers back on the beat.

Youth crime and disorder have risen sharply, but very few young offenders end up in court, and when they do half are let off with another warning. Young offenders account for seven million crinnes à year.

Far no often young criminals offend again and again while waiting months for a court hearing. We will halve the time it takes to get persistent young offenders from arrest to sentencing: replace widespread repeat cautions with a single final warning; bring together Youth Offender Teams in every area; and streamline the system of youth courts to make it far more effective.

New parental responsibility orders will make parents face up to their responsibility for their childrens

■ Conviction and sentencing

The job of the Crown Prosecution Service is to prosecute criminals effectively. There is strong evidence that the CPS is over-centralised, bureaucratic and inefficient, with cases too often dropped, delayed, or downgraded in

leaser offences.
Labour will decentralise the CPS, with local grown presentors co-operating more effectively with local police forces. We will implement an effective semencing system for all the main offences to ensure greater consistency and stricter punishment for serious repeat oftenders. The courts will have to spell out what

each sentence really means in practice. The Court of Appeal will have a duty to lay down sentencing guidelines for all the main offences. The Attorney-General's power to appeal unduly lenient seniences will be estended.

The prison service now faces serious financial problems. We will audit the resources available, take proper ministerial responsibility for the service. and seek to ensure that prison regimes an constructive and require inmotes to face up to their offending behaviour.

The Conservatives have forgotten the order part of law and order. We will tackle the unacceptable level of andsocial behaviour and crime on our streets. Our žero tolerance approach will ensure that petty criminality among young offenders is seriously addressed.

Community safety orders will deal with threatening and disruptive crim-inal neighbours. Labour has taken the lead in proposing action to tackle the problems of stalking and domestic

Child protection orders will deal with young children suffering neglect by parents because they are left out on their own far too fate at night.

ritain is a multiracial and multi-

cultural society. All its members must have the protection of the law. We will create a new offence of racial harassment and a new crime of racially motivated violence to protect ethnic minorities from introduction.

■ Drugs
The victous circle of drugs and crime wrecks lives and threatens communities Labour will appoint an anti-drugs supremo to co-ordinate our battle against drugs across all government s. The drug czar will be a symbol of our commitment to tackle the modern menace of drugs in our

We will pilot the use of compulsory drug testing and treatment orders for offenders to ensure that the link between This will be puid for by bringing remand delays down to the national targets.

We will attack the drug problem in prisons, in addition to random drug lesting of all prisoners we will aim for a voluntary testing unit in every orison for prisoners ready to prowe they are drug-

· PEDITO

Victims of crime are too often neglected by the criminal justice system. We will ure that victims are kept fully informed of the progress of their case, downgrauled or dropped.

Greater protection will be provided for victims in rape and serious sexual offence trials and for those subject to intimidation, including witnessa

We will place a new responsibility on local authorities to develop statutory partnerships to help prevent crime Local councils will then be required to set targets for the reduction of crime and disorder in their area.

In the wake of Dunblane and Hungerford, it is clear that only the strictest firearms laws can provide maximum safety. The Conservatives failed to offer the protection required. Labour led the call for an outright ban on all handguns in general civilian use. There will be legislation to allow individual MPs a free vote for a complete ban on handguns. Labour is the party of law and order.

We will strengthen family life

Help parents balance work and family Security in housing and help for homeowners ☐ Tackle homelessness using receipts from

council house sales Dignity and security in retirement

☐ Protect the basic state pension and promote secure second pensions

#### THE FAMILY

WE WILL uphold family life as the most secure means of bringing up our children. Families are the oure of our society. They should teach right from wrong. They should be the first defence against antiqueial behaviour. The breakdown of family life damages the labric of our vociety.

Labour does not see families and the State as rival providers for the needs of our chizens. Families should provide the day-to-day support for children to be brought up in a stable and loving

environment. But families cannot flour ish unless government plays its distinctive role in education; where necessary, in earing for the young: in making adequate provision for illness and old age, in supporting good parenting; and in protecting families from lawlessness and abuse of power. Society, through government, must assist families to achieve collectively what no family can

Yet families in Britain today are under strain as never before. The security once

undermined. Streets are not safe, Housing insecurity grows. One in five non-pensioner families has no one working; and British men work the longest hours in Europe.
The clock should not be turned back.

As many women who want to work should be able to do so. More equal relationships between men and women have transformed our lives. Equally, our attitudes to race, sex and sexuality have changed fundamentally. Our task is to combine change and social stability.

Work and family families without work are without independence. This is why we give so much emphasis to our welfare-to-work

Labour's national childcare strategy will plan provision to match the requir ments of the modern labour market and

help parents, especially women, to balance family and working life. There must be a sound balance between support for family life and the protection of business from undue burdens, a balance which some of the successful businesses already strike. The current Government has shown itself wholly insensitive to the need to help develop family-friendly working practices. While recognising the need for flexibility in implementation and for certain etemptions, we support the right of employees not to be forced to work more than 48 hours a week; to an annual holiday entitlement; and to limited unpaid parental leave These measures will provide a valuable underprinning to family life.

The rights of part-time workers have been clarified by recent court judgments which we welcome.

We will keep under continuous review all aspects of the tax and benefits systems to ensure that they are support ive of families and children. We are committed to retain universal Child Benefit where it is universal today from birth to age to and to uprate it at least in line with prices. We are reviewing educational finance and maintenance for those older than to to ensure higher staying-on rates at school and college, and that resources are used to support those in most need. This review continue in government on the guide-lines we have already laid down.

Security in bousing
Most families want to own their own homes. We will also support efficiently run social and private rented sector

offering quality and choice. The Conservatives' failure on housing has been twofold. The two thirds of families who own their homes have suffered a mussive increase in insecurity mortgage arrears, record negative equity and record repussessions. And the Conservatives lack of a housing strategy has led to the virtual abundonment of social housing, the growth of humelessness, and a failure to address fully leaseholder reform. All these are

the Tory legacy.
Labour's housing strategy will address the needs of homeowners and lenants alike.

We will reject the boom and hust

policies which caused the collapse of the ousing market. We will work with mortgage providers to encourage greater provision of more flexible mortgages to protect families in a world of increased job

insecurity. Mortgage buyers also require stronger consumer protection, for example by extension of the Financial Services Act,

mortgage packages.

The problems of gazumping have reappeared. Those who break their bargains should be liable to pay the costs inflicted on others, in particular legal and survey costs. We are consulting on the best way of tackling the problems of gazumping in the interests of responsible home buyers and sellers.

The rented housing sector

We support a three-way partnership between the public, private and housing association sectors to promote good social housing. With Labour, capital receipts from the sale of council houses, received but not spent by local council will be re-invested in building new houses and rehabilitating old ones. This will be phased to match the caracity of the building industry and to meet the requirements of prudent economic management. We also support effective schemes to

deploy private finance to improve the public housing stock and to introduce greater diversity and choice. Such schemes should only go ahead with the support of the tenants concerned: we oppose the Government's threat to hand over council housing to private landlords without the consent of tenants and with no guarantees on rents or security We value a revived private rented

sector. We will provide protection where most needed: for tenants in houses in multiple occupation.

There will be a proper system of

licensing by local amborities which will 1 benefit tenants and responsible landlords alike

We will introduce hammonhold a new form of tenure enabling people living in flats to own their homes individually and to own the whole property collectively. We will simplify the current rules restricting the pur-chase of treeholds by leaseholders.

Homelessness

Homelessness has more than doubled under the Conservatives. Today more than 40,000 families in England are in expensive temporary accommodation. The Government, in the face of Labour opposition, has removed the duty on local authorities to find permanent housing for homeless families. We will impose a new duty on local authorities to protect those who are homeless through no fault of their own and are in priority

There is no more powerful symbol of Tory neglect in our society today than young people without homes living rough on the streets. Young people emerging from care without any family support are particularly vulnerable. We will attack the problem in two principal ways: the phased release of capital receipts from council house sales will increase the stock of housing for rent; and our wellare-to-work programme will lead the young unemployed into work and financial independence.

We value the positive contribution that older people make to our society, through their families, voluntary activ-ities and work. Their skills and experience should be utilised within their communities. That is why, for example, we support the proposal to involve older we support the proposal to involve ider-people as volunteers to help children learn in pre-school and after-school clubs. In work, they should not be discriminated against because of their

The provision of adequate pensages in the old age is a major challenge for the future. For today's pensioners Conservative policies have created real powerty. growing inequality and widespread

The Conservatives would abulish the state-linanced basic retirement pension and replace it with a privatised scheme with a vague promise of a meany-lested state guarantee if pensions fall beneath a minimum level. Their proposals mean there will be no savings on welfare spending for half a century; and taxes will have to rise to make provision for new privately funded pensions. Their plans require an additional £312 billion between now and 2040 through increased taxes or horrowing, against the hope of savings later, with no certainty

We believe that all pensioners should share fairly in the increasing prosperity of the nation. Instead of privatisation, we propose a partnership between public and private provision, and a balance between income sourced from tax and invested savings. The basic state pension will be retained as the founda tion of pension provision. It will be increased at least in line with prices. We will examine means of delivering more automatic help to the poorest pensioners, one million of whom do not even

receive the Income Support which is their present entitlement

We will encourage saving for retirement, with proper protection for sav-ings. We will reform the Financial Services Act so that the scandal of pension mis-selling - 600,000 pensions mis-sold and only 7,000 people com-pensated to date - will not happen

again
Too many people in work, particularly
those on low and modest incomes and with changing patterns of employment, cannot join good-value second pension schemes Labour will create a new framework stakeholder pensions to meet this need. We will encourage new purmerships between financial service companies, employers and employees to develop these pension schemes. They will be approved to receive people's savings only if they meet high standards of value for money, flexibility and

SCULLIN. Labour will promote choice in pension provision. We will support and strengthen the framework for occupational pensions Personal pensions, appropriately regulated, will remain a good option for many. Labour will retain Serps as an option for those who wish to remain within it. We will also seek to develop the administrative structure of Serps so as to create a internship pension for those who as-sume responsibility as carers, as a result lose out on the pension entitlements they would otherwise acquire, and currently end up on means-tested benefits.

We overcome government opposition to pension splitting between women and men on divorce. We will implement this n government.
We aim to provide real security for

families through a modern system of community care. As people grow older, their need for care increases. The Convervative approach is to promote private insurance and privatisation of care homes. But private insurance will be inaccessible to most people. And their policy for residential homes is dogmatic and will not work. We believe that local

mix of public and private care.
We recognise the immense amount of care provision undertaken by family members, neighbours and friends. It was a Labour MP who piloted the 1995 Carers Act through Parliament. We will establish a Royal Commission to work out a fair system for funding lung-term care for the elderly. We will introduce a long-term care charter defining the standard of services which people are entitled to expect from health, housing and social services. We are committed to an independent inspection and regulation service for residential homes, and

domiciliary care. Everyone is entitled to dignity in retirement. Under the Tories, the earnings link for state pensions has been ended, VAT on fuel has been imposed, Serps has been undermined and community care is in tarters. We will set up a review of the central areas of insecurity for elderly people: all aspects of the basic pension and its value, second pensions including Serps, and cummunity care cluding Serps, and community care. The review will ensure that the views of pensioners are heard. Our watchword in developing policy for pensions and long-term care will be to build consensus among all interested parties.

We will help you get more out of life

☐ Every government department a green department

☐ Efficient and clean transport for all New arts and science talent fund for young people

Reform the lottery Improve life in rural areas ☐ Back World Cup bid

#### QUALITY OF LIFE

THE millennium is the time to reaffirm our responsibility to protect and en-hance our environment so that the country we hand on to our children and our grandchildren is a better place in which to live. It also provides a natural concernity to celebrate and improve culture and sport to our nation. We need a new and dynamic approach to the creative conomy. The Department of National Heritage will develop a strategic vision that matches the real power and energy of British arts, media and

Protecting the environment

Our generation, and generations yet to come, are dependent on the integrity of the environment. No one can escape unhealthy water, polluted air or adverse climate change. And just as these together to tackle them. No responsible werament can afford to take risks with government can allow to high. So it is our the future: the cost is too high. So it is our duty to act now.

The foundation of Labour's environ-

mental approach is that protection of the environment cannot be the sole respon-sibility of any one department of state. All departments must promote policies to sustain the environment. And Paraudit committee to ensure high standards across government. Throughout this manifesto, there are policies designed to combine environ-

mental sustainability with economic and social progress. They extend from commitments at local level to give communities enhanced control over their environments, to initiatives at international level to ensure that all countries are contributing to the protec-

tion of the environment.

A sustainable environment requires above all an effective and integrated transport policy at national, regional and local level that will provide genuine choice to meet people's fransport needs. That is what we will establish and

Raffways

The process of rail privatisation is now largely complete. It has made fortunes for a few, but has been a poor deal for the taxpayer. It has fragmented the network and now threatens services. Our task will be to improve the situation as we find it, not as we wish it to be. Our overriding goal must be to win more passengers and freight on to rail. The system must be run in the public interest with higher levels of investment and effective enforcement of train operators' service commitments. There must be convenient connections, through-ticketing and accurate travel information for the benefit of all passengers.

To achieve these aims, we will establish more effective and accountable regulation by the rail regulator; we will ensure that the public subsidy serves the public interest; and we will establish a

new rail authority, combining functions currently carried out by the rail franchiser and the Department of Transport, to provide a clear, coherent and strategic programme for the development of the railways so that passenger expectations

The Conservative plan for the wholesale privatisation of London Underground is not the answer. It would be a poor deal for the taxpayer and passenger ulike. Yet again, public assets would be sold off at an under-valued rate. Much-needed investment would be delayed. The core public responsibilities the Underground would be

Labour piens a new public/private partnership to improve the Under-ground, safeguard its commitment to the public interest and guarantee value for money to taxpayers and passengers. Road transport

A balanced transport system must cater for all the familiar modes of transport: cars whether owned, leased or shared: taxis; buses; bicycles and motorcycles. All needs must be addressed in transport planning to ensure the best mix of all types of transport, offer quality public transport wherever possible and help to protect the environment.

The key to efficient bus services is proper regulation at local level, with purmerships between local councils and bus operators an essential component, There must be improved provis enforcement of bus lanes. Better parking facilities for cars must be linked to convenient bus services to town centres Road salety is a high priority. Cycling and walking must be made safer, especially around schools.

We remain unpersuaded by the case for heavier, 44-tonne forries muoted by the Conservatives. Our concern is that they would prove dangerous and damaging to the environment.

Our plans to reduce pollution include working with the automotive industry to develop smart, efficient and clean cars for the luture, with substantially reduced emission levels. The review of vehicle excise duty to promute lowemission vehicles will be continued.

We will conduct an overall strategic review of the roads programme against the criteria of accessibility, safety, economy and environmental impact, using public/private partnerships to improve road maintenance and exploiting new technology to improve journey

Shipping and aviation

The Tory years have seen the nearextinction of Britain's merchant fleet. Labour will work with all concerned in shipping and ports to help develop their economic potential to the full. The guiding objectives of our aviation

strategy will be fair competition, safety and environmental standards, W: want

Continued on next page

■ Support for rural economy ■ Host the 2006 World Cup ■ Open government ■ Retain Trident

Continued from previous page all British carriers to be able to compete fairly in the interests of consumers.

Labour recognises the special needs of people who live and work in rural areas. The Conservatives do not. Public services and transport services in rural areas must not be allowed to deteriorate. The Conservatives have tried to privatise the Post Office. We opposed that, in favour of a public Post Office providing a comprehensive service. Conservative plans would mean higher charges for letters and put rural post offices under threat.

We favour a moratorium on large-scale sales of Forestry Commission land. We recognise that the countryside is a great natural asset, a part of our heritage which calls for careful stewardship. This must be balanced, however, with the needs of people who live and

work in rural areas.

The total failure of the Conservatives to manage the BSE crisis effectively and to secure any raising of the ban on British beef has wreaked havoc on the beef and dairy industries. The cost to the taxpayer so far is £3.5 billion

Labour aims to reform the Common Agricultural Policy to save money, to support the rural economy and enhance

Our initiatives to link all schools to the Information superhighway will ensure that children in rural areas have access to the best educational resources.

Our policies include greater freedom for people to explore our open country-side. We will not, however, permit any abuse of a right to greater access. We will ensure greater protection for wildlife. We have advocated new mea-

sures to promote animal welfare, including a free vote in Parliament on whether hunting with hounds should be banned by legislation. Angling is Britain's most popular sport. Labour's anglers' charter affirms

our long-standing commitment to an-gling and to the objective of protecting the aquatic environment.

#### Acts mud enforce

The arts, culture and sport are central to The aris, culture and sport are central to the task of recreating the sense of community, identity and civic pride that should define our country. Yet we consistently undervalue the role of the aris and culture in helping to create a civic society — from amateur theatre to our art galleries.

Art, sport and leisure are vital to our custity of life and the repressal of our

quality of life and the renewal of our economy. They are significant earners for Britain. They employ hundreds of thousands of people. They bring mil-lions of tourists to Britain every year. will also be helped by Labour's plans for new quality assurance in hotel

We propose to set up a National Endowment for Science and the Arts to sponsor young talent. Nesta will be a national trust -- for talent rather than buildings — for the 21st century. Nesta will be partly funded by the lottery; and artists who have gained high rewards from their excellence in the arts and wish to support young talent will be encouraged to donate copyright and

A Labour government will take the lead

in extending opportunities for participa-tion in sports; and in identifying sporting excellence and supporting it. School sports must be the foundation.

School sports most be the nonmanon. We will bring the government's policy of forcing schools to sell off playing fields to an end. We will provide full backing to the bid to host the 2006 football World Cup in England. A Labour government will also work to bring the Olympics and other major international sporting events to Britain.

#### A people's lottery

The lottery has been a financial success But there has been no overall strategy for the allocation of monies; and no co ordination among the five distributor bodies about the projects deserving to benefit from lottery funding. For example the multi-million-pound expenditure on the Churchill papers caused national outrage. A Labour government will review the distribution of proceeds from the lottery to ensure that there is the widest possible access to the benefits of lottery revenues throughout the United Kingdom.

Labour has already proposed a new millennium commission to commence after the closure of the Millennium Exhibition, to provide direct support for a range of education, environment and a range of eutocation; evolutioned and public health projects, including those directed at children's play, a project currently excluded from lottery henefit. Because the lottery is a monopoly intended to serve the public interest, it must be administered efficiently and economically. When the current contract runs out, Labour will seek an efficient not-for-profit operator to ensure that the maximum sums go to good causes.

Labour aims for a thriving, diverse media industry, combining commercial success and public service. We will nsure that the BBC continues to be a flagship for British creativity and public service broadcasting, but we believe that the combination of public and private sectors in competition is a key spur to innovation and high standards. The regulatory framework for media and adcasting should reflect the realities of a far more open and competitive economy, and enormous technological advance, for example with digital tele-vision. Labour will balance sensible rules, fair regulation and national and international competition, so maintain-ing quality and diversity for the benefit

#### Clinens' service for

An independent and creative voluntary sector, committed to voluntary activity as an expression of citizenship, is central to our vision of a stakeholder society. We are committed to developing plans for a national citizens service programme, to tap the enthusiasm and commitment of the many young people who want to make voluntary contributions in service of their communities. The millennium should harness the imagination of all those people who have so much to offer for the benefit of the community. We do not believe programmes should be imposed from the top down, but on the contrary wish to encourage a broad range of voluntary initiatives devised and developed by people within their own communities.

#### We will clean up politics

End the hereditary principle in the House of Lords Reform of party funding to end sies Devolved power in Scotland and Wales ☐ Elected mayors for London and other cities ■ More independent but accountable local

Treedom of information and guaranteed human

#### POLITICS

THE Conservatives seem opposed to the very idea of democracy. They support hereditary peers, unaccountable quangos and secretive government. They have debased democracy through their MPs who have taken cash for asking questions in the House of Commons. They are opposed to the development of decentralised govern-ment. The party which once opposed universal suffrage and votes for women now says our constitution is so perfect

that it cannot be improved. Our system of government is centralised, inefficient and bureaucratic. Our citizens cannot assert their basic rights in our own courts. The Conservatives are afflicted by sleaze and prosper from secret funds from foreign supporters. There is unquestionably a national crisis of confidence in our political system, to which Labour will respond in a measured and sensible

## A modern House of Lords

The House of Lords must be reformed. As an initial, self-contained reform, not dependent on further reform in the future, the right of hereditary peers to sit and vote in the House of Lords will be ended by statute. This will be the first stage in a process of reform to make the House of Lords more democratic and representative. The legislative powers of the House of Lords will remain un-

The system of appointment of life peers to the House of Lords will be reviewed. Our objective will be to ensure reviewed. Our objective will be the elistic that over time party appointees as life peers more accurately reflect the proportion of votes cast at the previous general election. We are committed to maintaining an independent cross-bench pres-ence of life peers. No one political party should seek a majority in the House of

A committee of both Houses of A committee of both Houses of Parliament will be appointed to under-take a wide-ranging review of possible further change and then to bring forward proposals for reform. We have no plans to replace the

monarchy.

An effective House of Commons
We believe the House of Commons is in
need of modernisation and we will ask
the House to establish a special Select the House to establish a special section.

Committee to review its procedures.

Prime Minister's Questions will be made more effective. Ministerial accountability will be reviewed so as to remove recent abuses. The process for scrutinising European legislation will be

overhauled. The Nolan recommendations will be fully implemented and extended to all public bodies. We will oblige parties to

declare the source of all donations above deciare the source of an ionisations above a minimum figure: Labour does this voluntarily and all parties should do so. Foreign funding will be banned. We will ask the Nolan Committee to consider how the funding of political parties should be regulated and reformed.

We are committed to a referendum on the voting system for the House of Commons. An independent commission on voting systems will be appointed early to recommend a proportional alternative to the first-past-the-post

At this election, Labour is proud to be making major strides to rectify the under-representation of women in pub-

#### Open government Unnecessary secrecy in government leads to arrogance in government and defective policy decisions. The Scott Report on arms to Iraq revealed Conservative abuses of power. We are pledged to a Freedom of Information Act,

leading to more open government, and an independent National Statistical

The United Kingdom is a partnership enriched by distinct national identities and traditions. Scotland has its own systems of education, law and local

government. Wales has its language and cultural traditions. We will meet the demand for decentralisation of power to Scotland and Wales, once established in referendums.
Subsidiarity is as sound a principle in Britain as it is in Europe. Our proposal is for devolution not federation. A

is for devolution to sold and water sovereign Westminster Parliament will devolve power to Scotland and Wales. The Union will be strengthened and the threat of separatism removed. threat of separatism removed.

As soon as possible after the election, we will enact legislation to allow the people of Scotland and Wales to vote in

separate referendums on our proposals, which will be set out in white papers. These referendums will take place not later than the autumn of 1997. A simple majority of those voting in each referendums. majority of the majority required.

Popular endorsement will strengthen the legitimacy of our proposals and speed their passage through Parliament.

For Scotland we propose the creation of a parliament with law-making powers from the secretary. ers, firmly based on the agreement reached in the Scottish Constitutional Convention, including defined and limited financial powers to vary revenue and elected by an additional member



Tony Blair and Scottish Labour MP George Robertson are greeted by a large crowd in the Stirling constituency yesterday

the proposal to give it defined and limited financial powers to vary rev-enue. The Scottish parliament will extend democratic control over the responsibilities currently exercised administratively by the Scottish Office. The responsibilities of the UK Parliament will remain unchanged over UK policy, for example economic, defence and force example.

and foreign policy.

The Welsh assembly will provide democratic control of the edsting Welsh Office functions. It will have secondary legislative powers and will be specifically empowered to reform and democratise the quango state. It will be elected by an additional member system. Following majorities in the referen-dums, we will introduce in the first year

of the Partiament legislation on the substantive devolution proposals out-lined in our white papers.

■ Good local government Local decision-making should be less constrained by central government, and also more accountable to local people. We will place on councils a new duty to promote the economic, social and environmental well-being of their area. They should work in partnership with local people, local business and local voluntary organisations. They will have the powers necessary to develop these partnerships. To ensure greater accountability, a proportion of coun-ciliors in each locality will be elected annually. We will encourage democratic innovations in local government, includ-ing pilots of the idea of elected mayors with executive powers in cities.

Although crude and universal council ne should en. We will retail reserve powers to control excessive council tax rises.

Local business concerns are critical to good local government. There are sound democratic reasons why, in principle, the business rate should be set locally, not nationally. But we will make no change to the present system for determining the business rate without full consultation with business.

The funnelling of government grant to Conservative-controlled Westminster speaks volumes about the unfairness of the current grant system. Labour is committed to a fair distribution of

government grant. The basic framework, not every detail. of local service provision must be for central government. Councils should not be forced to put their services OUR to tender, but will be required to obtain best value. We reject the dogmatic view that services must be privatised to be of high quality, but equally we see no reason why a service should be delivered directly if other more efficient means are available. Cost counts but so does

Every council will be required to publish a local performance plan with targets for service improvement, and be expected to achieve them. The Audit Commission will be given additional powers to monitor performance and promote efficiency. On its advice, gov-ernment will where necessary send in a management team with full powers to

remedy failure. Labour councils have been at the forefront of environmental initiatives under Local Agenda 21, the international framework for local action arising from the 1992 Earth Summit. A Labour government will encourage all local authorities to adopt plans to protect and enhance their local environment.

Local government is at the sharp end of the fight against deprivation. Ten years after the Conservatives promised to improve the inner cities, powerty and social division afflict towns and outer social division attict towns and other estates alike. A Labour government will join with local government in a con-certed attack against the multiple causes of social and economic decline unemployment, bad housing, crime, poor health and a degraded

London is the only Western capital without an elected city government. Following a referendum to confirm popular demand, there will be a new deal for London, with a strategic authority and a mayor, each directly elected. Both will speak up for the needs of the city and plan its future. They will not duplicate the work of the boroughs, but take responsibility for London-wide issues - economic regeneration, planning, policing, transport and environmental protection. London-wide respon-sibility for its own government is urgently required. We will make it

The Conservatives have created a tier of regional government in England through quangos and government re-gional offices. Meanwhile local authorities have come together to create a more co-ordinated regional voice, Labour will

the establishment of regional chambers to co-ordinate transport, planning, eco-nomic development, bids for European funding and land use planning. Demand for directly elected regional

government so varies across England that it would be wrong to impose a uniform system. In time we will introduce legislation to allow the people, region by region, to decide in a referendum whether they want directly elected regional government. Only where clear popular consent is estab lished will arrangements be made for elected regional assemblies. This would require a predominantly unitary system of local government, as presently exists in Scotland and Wales, and confirmation by independent auditors that no additional public expenditure overall would be involved. Our plans will not mean adding a new tier of government to the existing English system.

Citizens should have statutory rights to enforce their human rights in the UK courts. We will by statute incorporate the European Convention on Human Rights into UK law to bring these right home and allow our people access to them in their national courts. The incorporation of the European Conven-tion will establish a floor, not a ceiling for human rights. Parliament will remain free to enhance these rights, for example by a Freedom of Informatio

We will seek to end unjustifiable discrimination wherever it exists. For example, we support comprehensive, enforceable civil rights for disabled or at work, developed in partnership with all interested parties.

Lahour will undertake a wide-ranging review both of the reform of the civi justice system and legal aid. We will achieve value for money for the taxpayer and the consumer. A community legal service will develop local, regional and national plans for the development of legal aid according to the needs and oriorities of regions and areas. The key to success will be to promote a partner legal profession and the Legal Aid Board.

Every country must have firm control every country must have irrin control over immigration and Britain is no exception. All applications, however, should be dealt with speedily and fairly. There are, rightly, criteria for those who want to enter this country to join lausband or wife. We will ensure that these are properly enforced. We will, however, reform the system in current results that can follow from the existing primary purpose" tule. There will be a streamlined system of appeals for vis-itors denied a visa.

nors genied a visa.

The system for dealing with asylum seekers is expensive and slow — there are many undecided cases dating back. beyond 1993. We will ensure swift and fair decisions on whether someone can stay or go, control unscrupulous im-migration advisors and crack down on the fraudulent use of birth certificates.

Northme trebuil

Labour's approach to the peace process has been bipartisan. We have supported the recent agreements between the two governments — the Anglo-Irish Agreement, the Downing Street declaration and the Framework Document. The Government has tabled proposals which include a new devolved legislative hody, as well as cross-border co-operation and continued dialogue be-

tween the two governments.

There will be as great a priority attached to seeing that process through with Labour as under the Conservatives. in co-operation with the Irish Govern ment and the Northern Ireland parties We will expect the same bipartisar approach from a Conservative approach

combat the terrorist threat. There is now general acceptance that the future of Northern Ireland must be determined by the consent of the people as set out in the Downing Street declaration. Labour recognises that the option of a united Ireland does not command the consent of the Unionist tradition, nor does the easting status of Northern Ireland command the consent of the Nationalist tradition. We are therefore committed to reconcil between the two traditions and to a new political sentement which can command the support of both. Labour will help build trust and confidence among both Nationalist and Unionist traditions in Northern Ireland by acting to guarant human rights, strengthen confidence in policing combat discrimination at work and reduce tensions over purades. Labour will also foster economic progress and competitiveness in North-ern Ireland, so as to reduce

#### We will give Britain leadership in Europe

☐ Referendum on single currency

☐ Lead reform of the EU ☐ Retain Trident: strong defence through

□ A reformed United Nations ☐ Helping to tackle global poverty

## EUROPE

BRITAIN, though an island nation with limited natural resources, has for centuries been a leader of nations. But under the Conservatives Britain's influence has weend.

With a new Labour government, Britain will be strong in defence; resolute in standing up for its own interests; an advocate of human rights and democracy the world over; a reliable and powerful ally in the international institutions of which we are a member;

and will be a leader in Europe.

Our vision of Europe is of an alliance of independent nations choosing to cooperate to achieve the goals they cannot achieve alone. We oppose a European ederal superstate.

There are only three options for Britain in Europe. The first is to come sidelines. The third is to stay in, but in a leading role. An increasing number of Conser-

varives, overthy or covertly, favour the first. But withdrawal would be disas-trous for Britain. It would put millions of jobs at risk. It would dry up inward investment. It would destroy our clout in international trade negotiations. It would relegate Britain from the premier

The second is exactly where we are today under the Conservatives. The BSE finsco symbolises their failures in

The third is the path a new Labour government will take. A fresh start in Europe, with the credibility to achieve reform. We have set out a detailed agenda for reform, leading from the front during the UK presidency in the first half of 1998:

Rapid completion of the single market: a top priority for the British presidency. We will open up markets to competition; pursue tough action against unfair state aids; and ensure proper enforcement of single market rules. This will strengthen Europe's

competitiveness and open up new opportunities for British limits.

Li High priority for enlargement of the European Union to include the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and Cyprus, and the institutional re-

forms necessary to make an enlarged Europe work more efficiently.

Urgent reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, It is costly, vulnerable to fraud and not geared to environmental protection. Enlargement and the World Trade talks in 1999 will make reform some recential Western Common recommensation. make reform even more essential. We will seek a thorough overhaul of the Common Fisheries Policy to conserve

our lish stocks in the long-term interests of the UK fishing industry.

□ Greater openness and democracy in EU institutions with open voting in the Council of Ministers and more effective scruting of the Commission by supported a proportional voting system for election to the European Parliament.

□ Retention of the national veto over

hey matters of national interest, such as taxation, defence and security, immigration, decisions over the budget and treaty changes, while considering the exercision of Qualified Majority Voting in limited areas where that is in Britain's

☐ Britain to sign the Social Chapter.
An empty chairst the negotiating table is disastrous for Britain. The Social Chapter is a framework under which legislative measures can be agreed. Only two measures have been agreed consultation for employees of large Europe-wide companies and entitlement to unpaid parental leave. Successful tourpanies already work closely with their workforces. The Social Chapter cannot be used to force the harmonisation of contra parental text to force. isation of social security or tax legisla-tion and it does not cost jobs. We will use our participation to promote employability and flexibility, not high

Any decision about Britain joining the single currency must be determined by a hard-headed assessment of Britain's ecuriornic interests, Only Labour cart be

faction. But there are formidable obstacles in the way of Britain being in the first wave of membership, if European monetary union takes place on January 1999. What is essential for the success of EMU is genuine convergence among the economies that take part, without any fudging of the rules. However, to exclude British membership of EMU forever would be to destroy any in-fluence we have over a process which will affect us whether we are in or out. We must therefore play a full part in the debate to influence it in Britains

in any event, there are three pre-conditions which would have to be satisfied before Britain could join during the next Parliament: first, the Cabinet would have to agree; then Parliament; and finally the people would have to say "Yes" in a referendum.

M Strong defence through Nato
The post-Cold War world faces a range of new security challenges - prolifera-tion of weapons of mass destruction, the growth of ethnic nationalism and exremism, international terrorism, and crime and drug trafficking. A new Labour government will build a strong defence against these threats. Our security will continue to be based on

Our armed forces are among the most effective in the world. The country takes pride in their professionalism and courage. We will ensure that they remain strong to defend Britain. But the security of Britain is best served in a secure world, so we should be willing to contribute to wider international peace and security both through the alliances to which we belong, in particular Nato and the Western European Union, and through other international organsations such as the United Nations and the Organisation for Security and Co-

operation in Europe.

Labour will conduct a strategic defence and security review to reassess our ressential security interests and defence resential security interests and defence meets, it will consider how the roles, missions and capabilities of our armed forces should be adjusted to meet the new strategic realities. The review we propose will be foreign policy led, first assessing our likely overseas commit-ments and interests and then establishing how our forces should be deployed to

A new Labour government will retain Trident. We will press for multilateral negotiations towards mutual, balanced verifiable reductions in nuclear weapons. When satisfied with verified progress towards our goal of the global climination of nuclear weapons, we will ensure that British nuclear weapons are included in multilateral negotiations.

Labour will work for the effective mplementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention and for a strengthening of the Biological Weapons Convention. Labour will ban the import, export, transfer and manufacture of all forms of anti-personnel landmines. We will in-troduce an immediate moratorium on their use. Labour will not permit the sale of arms to regimes that might use them of arms to regular than might be dien for internal repression or international aggression. We will increase the transparency and accountability of de-cisions on export licences for arms. And we will support an EU code of conduct

governing arms sales.

We support a strong UK defence industry, which is a strategic part of our industrial base as well as our defence effort. We believe that part of its expertise can be extended to civilian use a defence diversification

#### Leadership in the

A new Labour government will use Britain's permanent seat on the Security Council to press for substantial reform of the United Nations, including an early resolution of its funding crisis, and a more effective role in peacekeeping, conflict prevention, the protection of human rights and safeguarding the

The Commonwealth provides Britain with a unique network of contacts linked by history, language and legal systems. Labour is committed to giving renewed priority to the Commonwealth in our foreign relations. We will seize the opportunity to increase trade and economic co-operation and will also build alliances with our Commonwealth partners to promote reform at the UN and common action on the global environprovide leadership to the Common-wealth when we host the heads of government meeting in Britain at the end of 1997.

#### Promoting economic

and social development Labour will also attach much higher priority to combating global poverty and underdevelopment. According to the World Bank, there are 1.3 billion people in the world who live in abs poverty, subsisting on less than \$1 (60p) a day, while 35,000 children die each day

from readily preventable diseases.

Labour believes that we have a clear moral responsibility to help combat global poverty. In government we will strengthen and restructure the British aid programme and bring development issues back into the mainstream of government decision-making. A Cabinet minister will lead a new department of

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We will shift aid resources towards programmes that help the poorest people in the poorest countries. We realfirm the UK's commitment to the 0.7 per cent UN aid target and in government Labour will start to reverse the decline in UK aid spending.

We will work for greater consistency between the aid, trade, agriculture and economic reform policies of the EU. We will use our leadership position in the EU to maintain and enhance the position of the poorest countries during the renegotiation of the Lome

We will support further measures to reduce the debt burden borne by the world's poorest countries and to ensure that developing countries are given a fair deal in international trade.

It is our aim to rejoin Unesco. We will consider how this can be done most effectively and will ensure that the cost is met from savings eisewhere.

#### # Human rights

the world for the integrity with which It conducts its foreign relations. We will make protection and promotion of human rights a central part of our foreign policy. We will work for the creation of a permanent international criminal court to investigate genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

#### A new caviron

internationalism Labour believes that the threats to the global climate should push environmental concerns higher up the international agenda. A Labour governme will strengthen co-operation in the European Union on environmental issues, including climate change and ozone depletion. We will lead the fight against global warming, through our target of a 20 per cent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2010.

Labour believes the international environment should be safeguarded in negotiations over international trade. We will also work for the successful negotiation of a new protocol on climate change to be completed in Japan in 1997.

#### Leadership, not isolation

who believe the way to cope with global change is for nations to retreat into isolationism and protectionism, and those who believe in internationalism and engagement. Labour has traditionally been the party of internationalism. Britain cannot be strong at home if it is weak abroad. The tragedy of the Conservative years has been the squandering of Britain's assets and the loss of Britain's influence.

A new Labour government will use those assets to the full to restore Britain's pride and influence as a leading force for good in the world. With effective leadership and clear vision. Britain could once again be at the centre of international decision-making instead of at its margins.

#### FIVE ELECTION PLEDGES

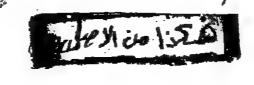
This manifesto contains the detail of our plans. We have promised only what we know we can deliver. Britain deserves better and the following five election pledges will be the first steps towards a better Britain. If you would like to help us build that better Britain, join us by calling 0990 300 900.

■ cut class sizes to 30 or under for 5, 6 and 7 yearolds by using money from the assisted places scheme

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no rise in income tax rates, cut VAT on heating to 5 per cent and inflation and interest rates as low as



# Leave our fine schools alone

Labour must not abolish the grantmaintained

RILAION

system, says **Bob Balchin** 

bout two years ago Tony Blair launched a publication called Diversity and Excellence. It set out Labour's plans for dismanding grant-maintained schools, those that by parental ballot have left the control of their local education authorities and govern themselves. The publication's promises have

enjoyed amazing longevity as, un-

like other Labour policies, they are

unchanged. Today's manifesto re-

veals no modification in Labour's

intent to abolish these fine schools. There are no such frightening words as abolition, of course, in the manifesto's text. In fact, the casual reader could be forgiven for believing that all Labour wants is a bit of cosmetic tidying up. There will be a change of name to "foundation schools", but what is in a name? One or two extra governors will be appointed by local councils but they will be in a minority. All schools are promised direct control over at least 90 per cent of their funding, which seems generous.

David Blunkett has been credited with the claim "that Labour can live with opt-out schools" and Mr Blair, Harriet Harman and other frontbench spokesmen send their offspring to grant-maintained schools, so why should the other million and a quarter parents who

use them have anything to fear?
The clue lies in Mr Blunkett's insistence that the name "grantmaintained" should be dropped. This is not just superficial repackaging of a successful Tory reform; it is symbolic of a real wish to destroy it. Grant-maintained schools are just that: maintained by a grant. directly from a government agency. Their funds do not pass through the local authority. For every £100 available for a school, town halls keep back around £10 for "central administration"; grant-maintained schools receive that £10, ie, 100 per cent funding. A recent study shows that they spend only £5 of this replicating council services and thus have 5 per cent extra to spend on school needs. Under Mr Blunkett's plans, this money will be



Archbishop Tenison, a beacon of grant-maintained education in a poor area of London, fears teacher redundancies under Labour

returned to the local authority to

fritter away on bureaucracy. Grant-maintained schools but this cash to excellent use. One fifth of all secondary schools are grant-maintained but last year they accounted for half the top performing comprehensives at GCSE. Most have employed more teachers: a third have increased staffing levels by more than 10 per cent and one in ten by more than 25 per cent. Three quarters of the schools report an increase in teacher morale since opting out and 90 per cent claim an improvement in staff training. Eighty per cent spent more on books, furniture, equipment, main-

tenance and decoration. So highly do grant-maintained school heads and governors prize their independence that they

sought a meeting with Mr Blunkett in February to try to persuade him that Labour ought not to reroute the grant through councils. His reply was: "It won't be possible."

In practice, the reintroduction of local authority control will lead to severe difficulties for grant-maintained schools. For instance, Archbishop Tenison's School, near the Oval in London, is a beacon of good education. It serves a majority of children from ethnic minorities and the quality of its work has been widely praised. The school has an annual budget of £1.6 million: Labour's proposals could reduce this by £160,000, and, as Brian Jones, the headmaster, says: "As 80 per cent of our funds go on staffing. we would have to reduce personnel. This would result in teacher redundancies and larger classes." Labour's plans to tamper with grant-maintained governing bodies are also not as harmless as they seem. Heads and governors used to productive meetings fear that the imposition of local political representatives would bring back all the old arguments of the council chamber to school boards, and that valuable governors would resign in frustration. At Archbishop Tenison's, Labour proposals would mean a reduction in the number of church and foundation governors

from 11 to three. "These are the people entrusted with ensuring that the original ethos and religious character of the school are preserved," says Mr Jones. "The dangers of replacing them with minor town hall politi-

COURSES

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Mr Blunkett's other stated plans for grant-maintained schools inspection by local authority "advisers" (although they already re-ceive visits from Ofsted), the interference in their admissions by local authority officers, the confiscation of the proceeds of asset sales by local authority treasurers - all show that new Labour is as wedded to municipal socialism as ever.

The soft words of today's manifesto conceal a steely determination by Mr Blair to hand back education to the control of local authorities, to the very people who have failed for decades to raise standards in schools.

Sir Bob Balchin is the chairman of the Grant-Maintained Schools

MAXIMISE YOUR POTENTIAL

## Is charity law stifling the student press?

Paul Tyrrell reports on the election

restrictions on the campus media

'Freedom

of speech

is what

student

journalism

is all about'

finally under way, the national press will once more begin to confirm their political colours. Not so the majority of Britain's student media, which will have to keep their opinions to themselves until after polling day.

This is because student unions have charitable status and are subject to charity law. This forbids the use of tax-relieved funds for displays of political partiality. National guidelines issued in February explain that any editorial comment or commentary in favour or against any party or its policies, even in the form of jokes or satire", is prohibited.

If student journal-ists wish to discuss the future of the constituency in which their campus is situated, they must offer equal column inches and air time to each local candidate, even if this means accepting contributions from extreme parties or candidates whose platform directly con-

travenes their unions' policies. Similarly, if groups such as Labour or Conservative Students are affiliated to their union and wish to hold a conference before polling day, they must do so behind closed doors unless they offer up the floor to representatives of other parties.

Hugh Rogers, spokesman for the Charity Commission, says that a flagrant breach of charity law, such as a partisan headline in a student newspaper on polling day, could lead to a restitution of funds and possibly other sanctions. A student union's charitable status could be jeopardised.

Charity law is designed to protect donors, prevent extreme political groups from using charitable status to gain legitimacy

**POSTS** 

ow that the election is and prevent campaigning with tax-relieved funds. However, a lecturer in law at Newcastle University, commenting in The Times last December, said that "the threat of penalties for unlawful political activity will tend to stifle participation in the political arena".

This is the view held by the editors of some of Britain's most distinguished student newspapers, who feel that their freedom of speech through editorial independence is being denied. David Smith, the editor of Leeds Student, which was voted last year's top student newspaper, says the restrictions are "a great shame,

because freedom of speech is what student journalism is all about".

Michael Mawle, legal adviser to the National Union of Students, stresses that the guidelines are simply a precautionary "clarification" and do not represent any change in charity law in response to unlawful student activity. However, even

before the calling of the election they inadvertently caused difficulty for student editorial teams. Jane Marriott, the editor of Durham's independent student newspaper, Palatinate, spiked a feature on Tony Blair, under advice from the NUS, because it was due to go to press just before the Wirral-South by-election. Lee Findell, the NUS vice-

president for education, has urged student media to concentrate on "issue-based debate" in order to compare parties fairly and also to support schemes such as "Rock the Vote". However, the law behind the guidelines has discouraged many editors from tackling political issues at a time when students are increasingly being accused of

APPOINTMENTS \*\*\*\* .

#### Postgraduate Scholarships

For the academic year 1997-98. The Centre is constituted as a Department within the Faculty of Laws, and provides postgraduate teaching for the LLM degree of London University. Supervision is also provided for students registered for the London PhD or MPhil degrees by research. The Scholarships are available to students who will be registered at Queen Mary and Westfield College for any of the above qualifications. The value of each scholarship will be determined by the status and qualifications of The value of each scholarship will be determined by the status and qualifications of the person to whom it is awarded, and may be at a level equivalent to the full tuition tea payable for the year and course in question.

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lying within the Unit's sphere of activities For further particulars and an application form please contact: Mrs Sandra Baird (tel. 0171 975 5322) quoting Reference T/AP. Completed application forms should be returned to arrive not later than 1 June 1997 to Mrs Sandra Baird, Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary and Westfield College, London E1 4NS.

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All research projects must be intrinsically related to the academic subject of Japanese Studies, and awards are tenable only in degree-awarding institutions in the UK. Applicants must be members of staff in such institutions: applications may not be made directly by students, and coursework cannot be funded.

It should be noted that research grants are unlikely to exceed £5,000, and that most will be substantially smaller. Studentship and are not being invited on this occasion.

Further particulars and application forms mat be obtained from the Executive Secretary, Japan Foundation Endowment Committee, c/o The University of Sheffield, Frith Court, Western Bank, Sheffield S10 2TN, by whom completed forms must be received by Friday 25 April 1997 at the latest, Tel:0114-222 1206; Fax: 0114-276 8496; E-mail: jfcc@sheffield.ac.uk

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**COURSES** 





Can your school match this filmscript? Colin Firth and Ruth Gemmell star in Fever Pitch, the story of a schoolteacher who is crazy about Arsenal Football Club

# A first-class act to follow

f the staff at Film Education have their way, secondary school classrooms will soon echo to the sound of teenage movie moguls "pitching" script ideas and arguing over the best way to promote a blockbuster.

In the wake of The English Patient's nine Oscar triumphs, Film Education, the ten-year-old charity which produces material used by thousands of teachers, is making its own, potentially signifi-cant contribution to the British film

With funding from the Cinema Exhibitors' Association and Barclays Bank, it has produced The Film Industry: three television documentaries and a detailed teaching pack, designed to show pupils how the professionals do everything from selling a screenplay to managing a multiplex.

With the media now a compulsory component of the national curriculum, film-related studies are gaining an increasingly firm foothold in the timetable. Out of school hours, more than one million 11 to Daniel Rosenthal reports on an initiative that could produce the next generation of British Oscar winners

18-year-olds go to the cinema at least twice a month. However, according to Film Education's Amanda White, only a handful are familiar with the wheeling, dealing and plain hard work that lie behind the on-screen action: more importantly, nor are their teachers.

Teachers of media, communications and business feel that demystifying the film industry is a crucial part of their work," says Miss White. "But a shortage of suitable material has meant many of them do not have a firm enough grasp of

"Our aim is to help them to provide students with a clear understanding of the wide range of roles that exist within the film industry. The kids all want to be Spike Lee or Martin Scorsese, but we want them to appreciate that behind the glamour of film-making, there is a lot of financial risk and old-fashioned teamwork."

The Producer's Tale, the first of the three half-hour Film Industry programmes, was transmitted in BBC2's Learning Zone in the early hours of Wednesday, to be repeated April 9, 16 and 23. Documentaries on distribution and exhibition follow in May and June, and 21,000 free copies of the accompanying teaching packs are on the way.

The teaching pack includes copies of documents from UCI Cinemas outlining plans for a new multiplex in Ireland; in The Producer's Tale, leading producers such as Sir David Puttnam talk about the problems of juggling artistic and commercial priorities.

Each section also contains tasks lifted straight from what Miss White calls "the nitty-gritty" of the

Another of The Producer's Tale interviewees. Nik Powell, executive producer of the screen version of Nick Hornby's Fever Pitch, which opens today, says: "This initiative movie business. Acting as producwill not make an impact in terms of ers, pupils have to devise a film recruitment, because there has idea and then convince investors never been a shortage of young (played by their classmates) to put people. But there are no real up millions of dollars; as distributraining routes into the business. tors they must construct a trailer

The Film Industry will help students through the fog that surrounds the complex and idiosyncratic structures of this busi-Beyond their short-term value for ness. The better educated people are, the better the British films we will produce."

Producers are not the only professionals to have been impressed by the teaching pack. The text is so clear and concise that a firm of entertainment lawyers has started using it as an induction pack for trainees, and the boss of one cinema chain always keeps his copy within easy reach.

● The Film Industry, BBCZ, 5.30am, Wednesdays until June 25. Packs are from Film Education, 41-42 Berners Street, London WIP 3AA.

## Boys, it's a chronic decline of phonics

New research claims to show why boys

trail at school. John O'Leary reports

Thile attention focused on W the teacher unions and politicians early this an intriguing theory emerged about the root cause of the growing gender gap in educational

The reasons for girls' increasing superiority has been a source of unending debate. Everything from the style of assessment to cultural shifts and an apparent decline in boys' self-esteem has been cited, but there has been no explanation for the phenomenon's gradual movement up the age range.

Young girls have always done better than boys, mainly, it is thought, because they mature more quickly. Even at GCSE, girls have been the traditional leaders in all but the sciences, and even that is changing. A-level has gone the same way and female students are winning the lion's share of the top

Bonnie Macmillan, a Canadian researcher living in London, believes that the causes can be found in the way children have been taught to read over the past two decades. Her book, published by the Institute of Economic Affairs. places the blame on teachers' reluctance to use phonics, the traditional method of teaching reading by decoding words from individual letter sounds.

Dr Macmillan's study, as one might expect from a right-wing think-tank, is polemic as much as research: its extensive survey highlights evidence to support her theory and ignores most of the rest. But, with the importance of phonics in the teaching of reading now well-established, the suggestion that previous practice may have had such an effect deserves attention.

Like many of the angrier critics of the education establishment. Dr Macmillan is inclined to overstate her case. "In general terms, one may find oneself wondering if it is possible that educational bureaucrats, teacher trainers, teachers' unions and organisations, in collaboration with book publishers and assisted by the rapid turnover of Secretaries of State for Education, may have conspired over a number of years to weave a complex veil of orthodoxy that has functioned most effectively to obscure the facts."

Publishers, who normally escape the attentions of traditionalist crit-ics, are at the heart of Dr Macmillan's thesis. The reading schemes used by most schools are usually seen as evidence that teachers are not in thrall to progressive methods, but she argues the opposite. Because the books encourage whole-word recognition, they are actually minimising the use of phonics.

· Wasp. hopi redress bal with Sunda

Naturally, the publishers deny this, and teachers insist that they do not slavishly follow the reading schemes alone. But other studies support the view that primary schools' claims to be using a mixture of techniques to teach reading (as the national curriculum requires) have disguised an underuse of phonics in many cases.

r Macmillan is certain that this is still the position in most schools, although her book by no means proves it. Whether or not it is, there can be little doubt that the use of phonics declined in the 1980s and the early years of this decade, when reading standards appear to have dropped Can this have had a differential impact on boys and a knock-on effect for later learning?

Dr Macmillan cites evidence that developmental differences between the sexes put boys at greater risk of reading problems: boys have a shorter attention span in the first years of school and are slower to acquire language skills.

The absence of a widening gender gap in Scotland, where traditional methods have continued to hold sway, is used to support her view that the use of "look-and-say" techniques in England has put boys at a particular disadvantage.

From this conclusion, it is but a short step to attribute later educational failure to boys' poor foundations. In the crucial primary years. when girls, in any case, are developing more quickly, boys are still struggling to master the basics and never catch up.

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The theory requires more evidence than Dr Macmillan has provided in her book, but it should not be discounted.

Why schoolchildren can't read by Bonnie Macmillan; published by the 1EA, 2 Lord North Street, London SWIP

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next generation of British movie-

Rebecca O'Brien, who appears in

The Producer's Tale, discussing

her work as producer of Ken

Loach's award-winning Land and

Freedom, says: "If you want to get into this business, knowing the

nuts and bolts of how a movie

reaches the screen is just as

important as having seen lots of

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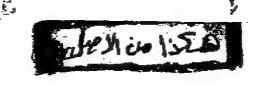
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UNIVERSITY

# Wasps hoping to redress balance with Sunday best

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE Courage Clubs Championship match between Wasps and Bath on Sunday was always likely to have a bearing on the destination of the league title but, after the tumultuous events of Wednesday night, the significance of the match is even greater. Having lost to Leicester at Welford Road, Wasps cannot afford another slip if they are to end the season in triumph.

They have the advantage over Leicester of having points in the bag. If they win their remaining five games, then Leicester would have to win seven matches and accrue a superior points difference to steal the title. For Bath, however, the season has gone from bad to worse. Defeat by Sale leaves their title defence in tatters and they will have to work hard to ensure qualification for the Heineken Cup

- - - 0 plans

The Property Section

"Anything can still happen but, realistically, our title hopes are over." Phil de

Glanville, the Bath captain, said after his side lost 11-5 at Heywood Road on Wednesday. "There is a lack of confidence at the moment. We are not playing the game we should be and the way we were at the start of the season. We've got to finish in the top four because it's important for the club that we get a Heineken Cup place, but we have some hard games

Adding to the gloom at Bath is the air of uncertainty surrounding the future of Simon Geoghegan. The Ireland

#### TABLE

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## Greenwood catches South African eye

BY DAVID HANDS

AMONG the lesser lights chosen by the British Isles for the tour to South Africa this summer, one in particular caught the eye of Carel du Plessis, the new South Africa coach. It is the height of irony that, if du Plessis wantin-depth information about Will Greenwood, he could contact the South African who plays alongside Greenwood at Leicester. Joel

We have seen most of them playing in the five nations' and I feel comfortable that we know a fair bit about the Lions," du Plessia said yesterday. "But Greenwood is a new name and I haven't seen a lot sitions and I want to hold of as much video materi-

al as possible." Du Plessis appreciates the size and strength of the Lions forwards and described the backs as a good mix of playmakers and solid defenders but, like many others, he queries the likely combinations at half back and the quality among the wings and

full backs. "The half backs will be very important because they will determine the style of game the Lions play." the former wing said.
"If they have Gregor
Townsend at stand-off, do
they have Neil Jenkins at full back? He is a reliable place-

kicker, but is he going to make it as the Test full back?" Not that du Plessis need worry about the Lions problems since he has concerns of his own; the heavy provincial schedule makes it impossible for him to travel to watch Stransky and Francois Pienaar play the final month

of the English season.

He hopes to select a squad of Nick Beat. We are keen to or 20 or 27 players effer the analyse certain players and final of the Super 12 on May co-operation of provincial coaches, keep them together in camp while the Lions are in South Africa. They have a warm-up international with Tonga in Cape Town on June 10 and, if the players remain together for a month, that would go a long way toward negating the advantage enjoyed by a touring side.

wing, who has made only a dozen first-team appearances since arriving from London Irish almost three years ago, withdrew from contention for the British Isles tour of South Africa because of foot problems that have plagued him all season and now threaten his career.

'I have to go back and speak to the surgeons," Geoghegan said, "I'll try something else, but if it doesn't work out I'll have to hang up my boots. At the moment my main concern

is to try to get these feet right for the rest of my life." Wasps are likely to field an unchanged XV at Loitus Road on Sunday, satisfied that they shared in an outstanding game with Leicester, despite the 18-12 reverse. I'm just pleased at the level our game reached and now we have to sustain it," Nigel Melville, the director of rugby, said. The reaction of our players to the defeat was brilliant - they were all sick, but there are so many young boys who can

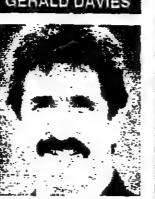
Melville's belief is that home-grown players such as Nick Greenstock, Will Green and Shane Roiser have to be encouraged, and he denied reports from France that Christian Califano, the international prop from Toulouse, is poised to join the London club. He was particularly pleased with the form shown by Alex King and Rob Henderson, who seems to have added a yard of pace since his move from London Irish.

Leicester, meanwhile, will take a rare opportunity to rest players against Orrell at Welford Road tomorrow. Only two of their six Lions, Eric Miller and Neil Back, take the field and Joel Stransky, whose six penalty goals proved decisive against Wasps, is rested. Stransky has taken his points tally to 119 in eight appearances, but gives way at stand-off half to Rob Liley. whose brother, John, returns at full back.

England have confirmed inat inclu tout of an this summer will involve five matches, with internationals on May 31 and June 7. There will also be a five-match tour by England Under-21 to Australia, their final match, at Sydney Football Stadium on July 12, being a curtain-raiser to the senior-international to be played between the Wallabies and England.

## Pride of Lions will be put to test on tour

GERALD DAVIES



Rugby Union Commentary

or all the head scratching and cyescrewing scarches through the notationmonths, the uncomplicated part is over. Although it cannot have seemed so at the time. Fran Cotton, the manager, and Ian McGeechan, the coach, will soon reflect that the selection of the British isles tour party was the easy bit. After all, they and Jim Telfer, the assistant coach, got to see a lot of the sport they loved, observed a whole clutch of fine and not-so-fine players and had to choose 35.

There will have been a lot of chin wagging about who to leave in and leave out but, in truth, they will have enjoyed the exercise. Something of the kind has been going on in pubs and clubs since Christmas and conducted in not too dissimilar a fashion. Pub pundits take ther banter about sport very seriously indeed.

The difference is that the know-alls in the four-ale bar can now, at the call of last orders, prepare to go home and sleep the sleep of the contented man. For Cotton, McGeechan and their captain. Martin Johnson, the goblins will soon begin their rounds at midnight. Can the Lions win an international match series in South Africa for the second time? And if so,

how will they do it? The trip is the 24th overseas tour undertaken by the Lions since 1888. This is the first time they travel as professionals. This may signal a change in emphasis. Indeed, the future of the Lions may depend on what happens this summer. Hitherto, South Africa and New Zealand have found Lions tours more entictour undertaken by any one of

the four individual countries. But the rugby world is changing. With the success of the Super 12 fixtures and the advent of the Tri-nations series in the southern hemisphere, the question will arise as to whether the Lions can retain their magnetism. This tour needs to be successful;

Bb7 Rc8



Johnson, the Lions captain, must ensure he does not remain a shadowy figure on tour

the matches evenly contested, the quality high.

Conclusions may already have been drawn, though, that the European champion-ship, for all the joyous celebration it provides, may not pass muster south of the equator. In which case, nothing short of a series win for the Lions

Lions tours have never been straightforward affairs. New To select the team from the four countries has always needed an element of diplomacy and at least a modicum of democratic distribution within the choice of players.

The Lions' task is to create a winning formula from so many disparate elements. This requires more than just players with the right physical and skilful attributes. It will require more than adopting the correct tactics. If it is to be the right mental approach for the competition itself, it cannot be as readily assumed that the players have the personalities to create the esprit de corps to sustain them through a period of almost two months and the playing of 13 matches.

There are tensions. It could be argued that these are players who have already travelled long distances, who are accusiomed to playing a series of fixtures in

er, however, almost randomly, there are men with whom they might not choose to

For all the great honour and charisma of the Lions, it is complacent to presume that a "national" identity automatically attaches to them, and to which the players can react in the way the Springboks and the All Blacks naturally respond to theirs. The identity has to be worked upon and manifests itself as the tour progresses.

Cotton and McGeechan have to work so much harder at casting their spell to create a wholesome sense of camaraderie. In this respect, the Springboks and the Ali

Blacks have a head start. Johnson, the captain, needs to cement that relationship throughout the squad. He cannot be a shadowy figure. Everyone needs, swiftly, to be made to believe in him.

At the blazer-fitting stage in a smart London hotel, there will be the nudge-nudge fri-volity of the nervous begin-

#### 'Future of team may depend on what happens this summer'

ners. This jocularity will have a forced quality, but the rigorous training will soon get rid of that they will no longer feel like strangers. This is when the fine balance between camaraderie and the will to win can be forged.

The next test is when they arrive in South Africa. They must immediately embrace the country and not look upon it as an alien culture to be rejected. Retreating into their own private world will only court disaster. The first defeat is when the self-questioning begins. It is when confidence

begins to grode. Much will depend on how those who fail to make the international team, the socalled "dirt trackers" of the midweek fixtures, will respond to the overall objective. To what extent will they subsume their thwarted personal ambition for the greater good of the Lions cause?

The players will find the tour a richly rewarding experience, without parallel l Say, in rus

# SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN. BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

This Refresher is about suit management. Do you know the best way to make three tricks out of AK97 opposite J63

It is to lead out the ace and continue with a low one to the jack. If nothing dramatic has happened, you play a third round to the king. You only fail against Qx or Ql0xx sitting over the jack.

So how would you play this

a out brave. drain.

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Contract: 6NT by South Lead: five of spades

You have eleven tricks on top, and if clubs were your only source of a twelfth you might play them as I describe above. But see what happens if, after you cash the ace and lead low to the jack. East wins and returns a heart. If the clubs are dividing and the heart is wrong you should take the ace of hearts, but if the clubs don't behave you should be taking the heart finesse.

When this hand occurred in

the Macallan Camrose match between England and Scotland in December, both declarers were alive to this point. Each cashed the ace of clubs and entered dummy to play a club to the nine. That is not the best percentage play in the suit, and West took the ten, but he couldn't do any harm. Each declarer was subsequently able to test clubs before deciding whether to take the heart finesse. As seems to happen so often when someone plays correctly, most of the inferior lines would also have worked.

THE East-West Imilian				
+752 +1054 +10874 +1082	W E	+843 <b>VK9876</b> <b>BL</b> <b>3</b> Q54		
☐ Davi	d Muller	organises a		

under 19's bridge club at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club. Activities include Duplicate Bridge Pairs, Minibridge Pairs, and supervised practice. The next meetings are on 12 and 27 April. Details: D Muller, 0181 952 2930; Young Chelsea Bridge Club 0171 373

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

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RAHAB a. A tectotaller c. An Apocryphal prophet a. A traitress

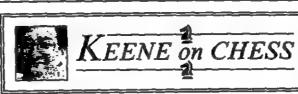
b. A nursemaid c. A beauty

BARSABAS a. A substitute

b. A friend of Joshua e. A lawgiver RHODA a. An excitable girl

b. The wife of Peter c. A Corinthian

Answers on page 45



13 Bos 14 0-0

BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Champions in France

It is noteworthy that two 30th der Alekhine and Boris Spassky, have taken up residence in France. yet their presence made no discernible impact on the overall level of chess in that country. Etienne Bacrot, 14, who has just become the world's youngest grandmaster ever, was not a trainee of Spassky but of grandmaster Josef Dorfnan, formerly the trainer and second of Garry Kasparov. Alekhine, who won the world championship 70 years ago, led the

French team on several occasions, but his colleagues (who included the artist, Marcel Duchamp) must be considered minor masters rather than full international level or of grandmaster standard. It is possible that Alekhine's presence in the team may have overswed rather than encouraged his compatriots. Here is a complicated game from Alekhine's capture of the world title 70 years ago. White: Alexander Alekhine

Riack: Jose Capabianca World championship, Buenos Aires, 1927

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	Queces	s's Gambit Dec			
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10	Bh4	ReB			
11	Rd1	b5			
12	cxb5	⇔ <del>b5</del>			
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Qa5 Nbc Nc4 By16 Qb1 18 Ne2 17 Ne5 KIB Ke7 Obs Nd7-Oxb? 26 Oct2 27 Re1 Ort? Cb6 Poc? Kc8 g6 Ne4 Rc3 32 33 54 35 NG5 36 ds.c5 37 H Oes Og7 date4 Qf6 39 Kt2 40 g3 41 Rc1

Black resigns Diagram of final position 5 淡土流 爱 星 

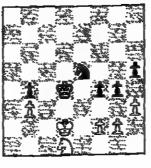
abcdefgh Raymond Reene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game Moynihan -Speelman, Bunratty 1997, Can you see how Black made use of his tremendous space advantage to force a breakthrough on the kingside in this endeame?

Solution on page 45



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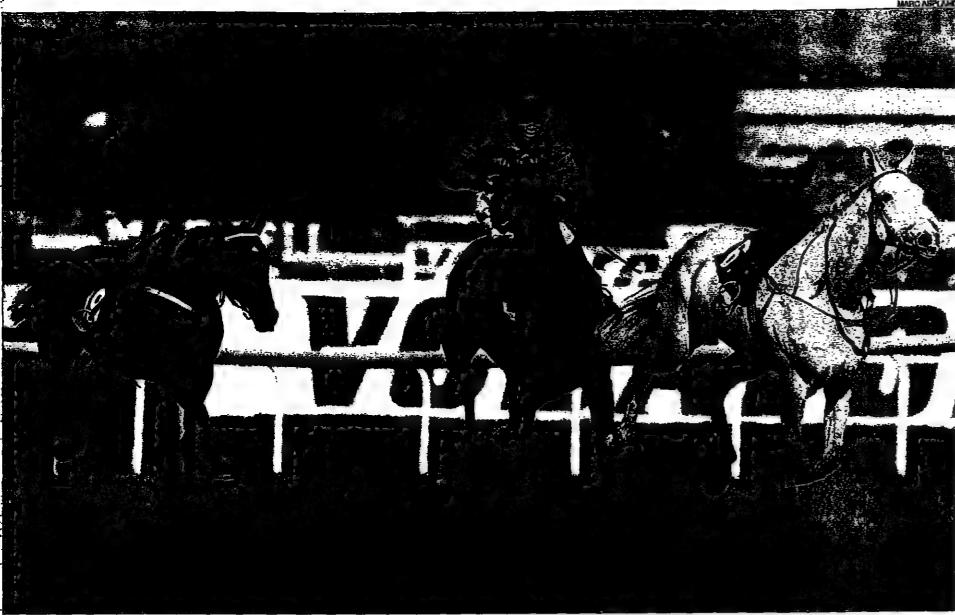
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#### **RACING:** AINTREE HAZARDS HIGHLIGHTED BY DRAMATIC FINISH TO JOHN HUGHES TROPHY



Tormey has to take evasive action to avoid loose horses blocking his route before going on to capture the John Hughes Trophy with Bells Life at Aintree yesterday

# Tormey steers clear of distractions

By JULIAN MUSCAT

WE ARE in for a vintage renewal of the Grand National if yesterday's drama is an accurate portent. Under sun-drenched skies. Aintree racecourse was at her mercurial best, threatening to ridicule the best efforts of Glenn Tormey on his first ride over the famous birch.

Partnering the Philip Hobbs-trained Bells Life, Tormey must have thought the job was done as he cleared the final obstacle in the John Hughes Trophy Chase with a decisive advantage. But it is not just the fences that can make mischief. Tormey had yet to negotiate the elbow, which diverts runners away from The Chair and on towards the winning post. As he approached it, his vision impaired by the glare of the sun. Tormey was suddenly corraled towards the dolled-off fence by two loose horses.

vank him back on course - but the loose horses now contrived to carry him in the other direction. Once again Tormey straightened his disorientated mount, whose rhythm had been seriously compromised. And justice eventually prevailed when he fended off Yeoman Warrior's late challenge to claim the prize.

Remarkably, given the visual images of his corment. Tormey recounted an alternative version on dismounting. "It was a bit scary heading off towards The Chair like that. I had my head down because I could hardly see where I was going could hardly see where I was going. Sure, I had a bit of interference but those loose horses turned out to be more of a help than a hindrance." He was quick to add: "It wasn't as bad as

When Tormey reviews the video in the years to come, he will doubtless tell it differently. The incident underlined that, for all the softening of the For a few strides Bells Life shaped fences, Aintree's little genie can still as if to jump Aintree's biggest for the second time. Tormey managed to depths of the bottle. Indeed, we could

do with a bit of old-fashioned drama in the big race tomorrow.

Drama of a less savoury dimension permeated the rest of the card, most notably the chapter of incidents surrounding the Martell Cup Chase over an extended three miles. The contest presented One Man with a

All courses at Aintree were being watered last night. Ian Renton, the assistant clerk of the course, said vesterday: "There will be watering on the Mildmay and hurdle courses to maintain good ground. We will also water selectively on the Grand

suitable opportunity to recompense for his Gold Cup failure. Patiently Dunwoody, One Man stalked the revive the 11-year-old's faltering field before he was unceremoniously pulled up with a full circuit remain-

One Man's nostrils, although Dunwoody had no indication of the grey's tribulations from the saddle. Evidence that One Man had broken blood vessels might explain why he has appeared so lifeless in his races this season. Internal haemorrhaging is undectectable to the naked eye. If the problem has been afflicting him intermittently, it puts into uncomfortable perspective the widespread re-

cent criticism of his courage.
With One Man sidelined, Merry Gale looked as assured winner when he swept past Barton Bank early in the home straight. But the Irish horse capitulated quickly; he is short of stamina over this distance and Barton Bank rescued a meaningful result from the wreckage to post a thoroughly meritorious victory.

David Nicholson, who trains Barby Richard ton Bank, has worked wonders to career. Much was made of his propensity to blunder away his chances, but the key seems to be his

4.50 ODDBUIS BANDICAP HUBDLE

 $5.20\,$  permer jouet Handicap Chase (\$10,270: 3m 10) (8 numbers)

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Form focus

FORM FOCUS

here and in the Gold Cup, in which he finished an honourable second, Barton Bank enjoyed the freedom of the track. His only error yesterday came at the third-last — when he was

joined by Merry Gale.
Nicholson completed a treble when
Midnight Legend and Escartefigue
topped and tailed the seven-race card. And he might have reaped further dividends when Mulligan approached the second-last fence of the Sandeman Maghull Novices Chase with the advantage, over

However, in duplicating his novicey departure at Cheltenham, Mulligan all but dislodged Jamie Osborne from Squire Silk as he rolled to the ground. Osborne survived — but a shocking error at the last fence almost cost him the prize he had earlier been handed on a plate.

Both Squire Silk and Mulligan might not have coped with Flying Instructor — but that horse was to exit unceremoniously at the third-

# Viking Flagship ready to take command again

2.00: Sammartino, an excel-lent sixth behind Make A Stand in the Champion Hurdle, holds outstanding claims here, especially as the step up in trip should suit the former Ebor winner. Indeed, the form shown by David Nicholson's classy recruit in all his races, excluding the Cheltenham effort, reads better than that of his rivals and ground conditions will be in his favour.

The main threat will be posed by Marello, Mary Reveley's unbeaten mare, who bypassed the Chelten-ham Festival and is sure to give a good account of her-self. Outside of the first two in the betting, Influence Ped-ler should show further improvement for Jim Old.

2.35: This amounts to a rerun of the Queen Mother Champion Chase, with four of the first five reopposing. Strong Promise was travelling sweetly in the lead over arguably an inadequate trip Cheltenham before a blunder three out ended his winning chance. Geoff Hub-

#### RICHARD EVANS

Nap: PENNY A DAY (4.50 Aintree) Next best: Sanmartino (2.00 Aintree)

bard's admirable chaser would have finished much closer but for that and will appreciate today's step back up in trip. However, he still has to

show considerable improvement to win here. Martha's Son ran the race of his career to beat Ask Tom and Viking Flagship at the Festival and is still relatively lightly raced, having missed most of last season. However, VIking Flagship beat Martha's Son in this race two years ago, was successful again in this event last season and can oblige over what is his best trip nowa-

3.10: With the sun and wind drying out the course by the minute, the going is far from ideal for Cyborgo, but it is difficult to put up a realistic alternative to Martin Pipe's classy chaser. Despite finishing a distant eighth in the Gold Cup, his overall form is much superior to that of his

Buckhouse Boy, twice well beaten by the selection,



Old: saddles Yahmi

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would prefer easier going reversing the form. Crown Equerry likes the mud and has twice broken blood vessels. Chopwell Curtains, who returned to winning action at Bangor 13 days ago after showing useful form in the autumn, is proven on a faster surface and looks the best outsider.

3.45: Mr Boston is a worthy favourite, but there are question marks against his form and Blue Cheek is given the vote (Carl Evans writes). On a line through Minella Express, he has the beating of the Mike Roberts trained Trifast Lad, will love the ground, and has Robert Thornton, a very capable amateur, in the saddle. Chilipour has had training problems, but looks booked for a clear round and cannot be left out of the reckoning. Country Tarrogen is another worth considering in an

4.20: Forest Ivory has progressed in virtually every run over hurdles having been a decent bumper horse last term. The step up to three miles should be in his favour after he stayed on resolutely to finish less than five lengths behind Istabraq at Cheltenham.

Salmon Breeze and Spring Double are others going the right way, but they may find it hard to heat the sevenyear-old Yahmi. He landed in the lead over the last in the Gold Card final only to be outbattled by Pharanear. This flatter track will suit the Jim Old-runner, who loves fast ground.

4.50: Penny A Day, who is proven on fast ground, will be a popular choice after an eye-catching effort in the County Hurdle. The useful dual-purpose performer was a strong-finishing third, having made a mistake and lost his place at the fifth flight. Mary Reveley's horses are in cracking form and today's extra half-mile should suit.

Gales Cavalier, second to subsequent Champion Hurdle winner, Make A Stand, solid claims along with Allegation and Castle Sweep, who were just pipped by Big Strand in the Coral Cup.

5.20: The Gordon Richardstrained Unguided Missile is the class horse of the race but, after falling in the Gold Cup, he may struggle to give so much weight away. Cab On Target showed he is no backnumber when second in the Foxhunters' at Cheltenham and the Reveley-trained

runner will relish the going. Fiveleigh Builds is admirably consistent but this represents a considerable step up in class. In a tricky finale, the well-handicapped Bertone makes some appeal. The eight-year-old has not raced for ill days, but goes well fresh and Kim Bailey's horses are in form.

-

RICHARD EVANS

#### Blood was streaming from both acute sense of claustrophobia. Both last. It was that sort of day. 4.20 BELLE EPOQUE SEFTON NOVICES HURBLE GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARDE. BBC2 (Grade I: £21,532: 3m 110yd) (12 runners) Raccord number. Six-lique form (F — left P — palled up. B — unbased refer. B — brought clover. B — solved qu. B — refused. D — considered refer. B — refused. D — considered refer. B — solved b — considered refer. B — solved b — considered refer. B — considered ref 3.45 Country Tarrogen 2.00 MARELLO (nep) 4.20 Tarrs Bridge 2.35 Strong Promise 4,50 Ashwell Boy 5.20 Wudimp 3.10 The Last Filing The Times Private Hendicapper's top rating: 2.00 SANMARTINO. Carl Evens: 3.45 Blue Cheek. 3.10 MUMM MILDMAY MOVICES CHASE SETTING: 3-1 Forcit hopy, 7-2 Yehro, 4-1 Private Peace, 8-1 Frying Gunner, Markit Broaze, Storrey Passings, 14-1 others (Grade II: £23,404. 3m 1f) (7 runners) TOTE JACKPOT MEETING 1990: PLEASURE SHARED 8-11-6 P Cottony (14-1) P Habbs 16 cm 2.00 MARTELL MERSEY HOVICES HURDLE FORM FOCUS (Grade II: £14,582: 2m 4f) (12 runners) FLYNG GUNNER best Bawy Hill Lad head in 13parser nowce: hostle at Hashington (Sin 2), good to 20th. THYNE (7th werso off) 24th 7th. MENTINDRE TOWERS but Batton Ward 12th in 14-namer nowces hardle at Utiocater (2in 110) to 60th TARRE PROFEST INVERY bast offer a newtes hardle at Utiocater (2in 110) to 60th Tarre ( BETTME: 10-11 Cyberge 5-1 Beckborne Boy, Sour Claw, S-1 Chapmell Casians, Comm Ripony, 16-1 The Lect Floor, 23-1 Judicines, Centan.

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1-20160 HERDARTE 23 (D.S) (TAX Consultants) 5 Bending (*11-1)	ADDICTORS CUPTANT best Feminal Research 12 in 5- rounder counters hardscap chase at Utilization (2m 2).  BEAR CLAW best Carolin 5 Checadon 151 in 11- rounder normous chase at Einster (2m 7) 110 pt. good  BEAR CLAW best Carolin 5 Checadon 151 in 11- rounder normous chase at Einster (2m 7) 110 pt. good  BEAR CLAW best Carolin 5 Checadon 151 in 11- rounder normous chase at Einster (2m 7) 110 pt. good  BEAR CLAW best Carolin 5 Checadon 151 in 11- rounder normous chase at Einster (2m 7) 110 pt. good  BEAR CLAW best Carolin 5 Checadon 151 in 11- rounder normous chase at Einster (2m 7) 110 pt. good  BEAR CLAW best Carolin 5 Checadon 151 in 11- rounder normous chase at Einster (2m 7) 110 pt. good  BEAR CLAW best Carolin 5 Checadon 151 in 11-  Zign 6-Transport Checadon 150 in 110 pt. good  Zign 6-Transport Checadon 150 in
FORM FOCUS	14-respons grade 1 Royal Son Atlanca Hornes Chapsion (3m solf) as petallerate start.  Chapse at Chefterham (3m 1/ good to first)   Soluctions CYBORGO
SAMMARTINO about 111/4 6th of 17 to Mater A Stand in grade 1 Sourift Champson Hardin at Chef- tentian (2m 110/4, good).  MARELLO beet Star Selection 6f in 6-remore non- less hardie at Nelso (2m 21, good) to soft,  COURRARS, heat Engles Resi (4) in 10-tunder provises hardin at Ascoi (2m 110/4, good to 6m)  DEAMO'S BESIO 2117h of 16 to Stadow Leader  Selection; SAMMARTINO	3.45 MARTELL FOX HUNTERS CHASE [Grand National course: artialeurs: £14.070 2m 5f) (14 runners)  407 PP2-44F ABBOTSHAM 4P (6.5) (0 Carter (0 Carter 12-12-0
2.35 MUMM MELLING CHASE (Grade I: £47,460: 2m 4f) (4 runners) 201 61-212 ASK TOM 23 (C.F.G.S) (8 Stewart-Brown) T Tata 8-11-10	405   1-PDG FARMINGG 28 (B)   Martine Challenge   Mis D Grossel 12-12-8   Mi Gordent
FORM FOCUS	BETTING: 6-4 Mr Boston. 5-1 Country Tapagest. Chilgron: 8-1 Tolent Last, 16-1 Blan Charle, Matt Roef, 12-1
A STRONG PROMISE OF 56, STRONG PROMISE OF 56, STRONG PROMISE	1990; ROLLING BALL, 13-12-0 R Food (7-2) 5 Bendelman Zii sin
Victor Chardler Handscap Living at Assent Charte of Assent (2m 3f 110ed, cond to firm)	FORM FOCUS
THA'S SUM peer Schoppin Chase at Chebenham good) on penultimate start.  1 Queen Mother Chasepan Chase at Chebenham good) on penultimate start.  2 penultimate start.  Selection: STRONG PROMISE (map)	ABBOTSHAM 11 2nd of 7 to Federatoria to open tools at Bestingthing (Str., good in Root). BELLE CHEEK best Landsher Missale 161 to 18- mones harder chase at Ludions (2m 44, good to Root) and GHEAT POWEY (46 were ut) Schools 17th.  GHEAT POWEY 3 2nd of 6 to Earthe Committee  Table Cheek at Merical Roots (2m 4 110nd) and to Root 17th.  GHEAT POWEY 3 2nd of 6 to Earthe Committee  Table Cheek at Mericalities (2m 4 110nd) and to Root 17th.  Tenting at Ludions (2m 4 110nd), good to
COURSE SPECIALISTS	In Interior chase at Sandown (2m 4) 110yd, good to least an VOUNG MINIOR CO.



JOCKEYS

Prince Foley reigns supreme on debut

Sensi | OF 5th. | Selection: MR BOSTON

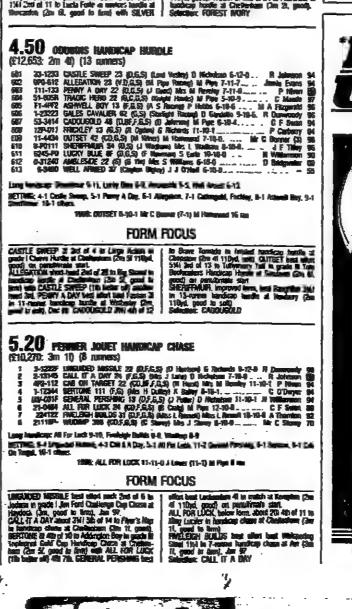
SEDGEFIELD: 2.10 Broomhill Duker. 3.55 Grand Scenery.

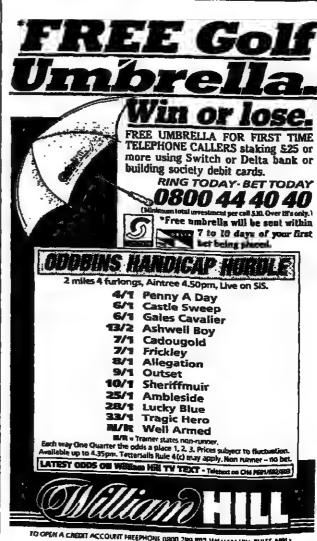
Blinkered first time

BILL TURNER sent out his third two-year-old winner in three days when Prince Foley landed the Knighton Median Auction Maiden Stakes

break, running green and giving most of his rivals a start of at least ten lengths.

"I feared he might do that because I have at Leicester yesterday on his debut. The
Sherborne trainer, who has just five juveniles
in his care, prepared the Greensmith colt to
beat Arian Da by two lengths after missing the





RACING: STOUTE-TRAINED HOPE OVERCOMES AMERICAN CHALLENGE IN DUBAI

# Singspiel has world at his feet

surprise, a pleasant surprise."

heels of another runner and

teeth, was taken to hospital for

Tamayaz, fifth in last year's

Dubai World Cup, won yester-

day's main supporting race.

the Dubai Duty Free, Ridden by Frankie Dettori, Tamayaz

Gun by a length, with the

locally-trained Magellan back

Simon Crisford, racing

manager for Godolphin,

which owns Tamayaz, said:

That was an excellent perfor-

mance. He loves the track and

hurt.

Sadly, the Japanese-trained

SINGSPIEL, trained by Michael Stoute, saw off a strong American challenge to win the world's most valuable race. the \$4m Dubai World Cup, at Nad Al Sheba yesterday.

. . . :

17 + 1997

GUIDE

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71 <del>47</del>

Given a well-judged ride by his jockey. Jerry Bailey, Singspiel was produced on the inside to strike the front over a furlong out and beat favourite Siphon by 14 lengths, with Sandpit 12 lengths back in third. Bailey has now won both runnings of the race. having landed the inaugural event last year on Cigar.

The success completed an amazing run of big-race triumphs from around the world for Stoute, after the Canadian International, Breeders' Cup Turf and the Japan Cup, two of which were achieved with Singspiel.

Stoute, who sent Singspiel to acclimatise in Dubai in January, paid tribute to his backroom team as he savoured "one of the greatest thrills of my career".

"This is a wonderful moment I owe an awful lor to John Cork, Greville Starkey and Kevin Bradshaw, who have looked after Singspiel out here in Dubai, and I must congratulate Singspiel for his versatility.

We felt he was handling horses can do it on dirt. It is the surface and the kickback well in training. But you can't have a rehearsal for what happened out there. But on his distaff side, he's all dirt."

Singspiel's victory was good reward for his owner, Sheikh Mohammed, who organised for the race to be re-staged after it had been washed out by torrential rain on Saturday. However, the weather was

#### **BIG-RACE DETAILS**

DUBAI WORLD CUP (\$1,428 57): 1m 2f) 1. SINGSPIEL J D Baltey
2. Siphon C Nakatari
ALSO RAN Key Of Luck Him Formal Gold
(5th) Jugelor (6th) Even Top (7th)
Kammilaria (8th), Luco (8th), Flemenstrin
(10th) Houto Vega II, Boot D Inde (bd)
12 ran NR Hessan 13a 13a 244 13a
(31b) Jugelor M Stoute at Newmarket. 2mm
(1) 91sac.

No official starting prices. Bookmakers will settle belo according to their own odds.

perfect for yesterday's event, to which a massive local audience of 35,000 flocked. "I've won some great races.

own country is a great thing and I am very happy to win the Dubai World Cup." Sheikh Mohammed said. "I hope this proves to the Europeans that even grass

the surface. He could have run but to win the big race in my in the World Cup but at that level he is slightly exposed. He will run in Europe for the first half of the season, and we will spot a race for him in North America on dirt in August or



Jerry Bailey, on board Singspiel, salutes the crowd

#### RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

September."

#### Aintree

2.00 (2m 110yd hdie) 1. MIDNIGHT LEGEND (R. Johnson, 11-2), 2, Sharpirasi IM A Fizgeraid, 100-30 (av), 3 High in The Clouds (S. Wynne, 9-1) ALSO RAN 4 Sireen Green Desert (8th), 9-2 Niget's Lad (8th), 9 Nordic Breezs, 11 Mister Rm (4th), 30 Crendon Bouleverd (pp), 25 No Pattern (pu) 9 ran 2, 3, 10, 2, dest 0 Nicholson at Temple Guang Tote, 27-20, 21-50, 21-70, 12-30, DF, 210-10 Tite-242,30, CSF, 222-10.

\$42.30, CSF \$22.10.
\$2.35 (3m 11 chi 1, BARTON BANK (D Walsh, 100-30); 2. Merry Gale (C O'Dwyer, 11-2); 3. Rouven (J Titley, 30-1) ALSO RAN 6-4 tay One Men (pu), 7-2 Challenger Du Luc (4th), 5 ran. 91, 1141 21, D Nicholson at Temple Guiling Tote \$4.10, \$2.00, \$1.40, DF \$7.80 CSF; \$16.67.

CSF: £16 67.
3.10 (2m ch) 1. SCUIRE SILK (J. Osbarre, 2-1; Thunderer's rep.); 2. Oh 50 Risky (P. Holley, 11-11, 3, Subtree Fellow (M.A. Fizzgerald, 16-1), ALSO RAN.
11-8 lev Muligan (I), 15-2 Amancto (4th), 8 Fyling Instructor (I), 8 ran 15i, 15i, 12 A Turneri at Warriage Total: £3, 10; £1,80, £2,70, DF £13,60 CSF £19,50

22 70. DF 213.60 CSF 219 50
3.48 (2m 8) ch) 1. BELLS LIFE (G
70mbs), 14-11; 2. Yeomain Wartlor (D
O'Suliver, 33-1); 3. Kadi (F Johnson, 8-1
ji-lav), 4. Aly Daisy (Mr C Bonner, 33-1).
ALSO RAN, 8-1 ji-lav Golden Spinner,
Romeny Creek (pu), Senor El Batrutti
(8th.) 9 Cocumivara (pu), The Frog Prince
(pu), 10 Too Plush (f), 12 Filmsy Truth (f),
14 No Pain No Gain (Sth.) 20 Change The

Reign (bd), Kings Cherry (f), Master Boston (ur), Pond House (ur), Saltar Jim, 50 Cryptedy Lad (f), 100 Griffins Bar (ur), 150 Super Sandy, 20 ran 3, 51, 141, 41, 181 P Hobbs at Minehead Tote 520 So, 54 20, £12 80, £2 90, \$7, 00 DF; £369.80 Tho: £3,300.50 CSF £378 77, Thosas £0,594,37

E) 584,97
4,20 (2m 110yd hdie) 1. CUAKERS
FIELD (D Gellagher, 3-1); 2, Far Dawn (C
Mautie, 14-1), 3. Circus Star (F) Johnson,
6-1), ALSO RAN 5-2 bay L'Opera (h, 13-2
Hard News, 7 Summer Spell (4th), 10
Martonetis, 12 Sunger Fox (pul, 14 Custiny
(8th), 18 M Wald (5th), 20 Noble Land 25
Balladur 12 ran NR Fashl 51, 51, 11, 41, 21
G L Moore at Bingheon, Tote, E1020,
E2.50, E4.80, E2.50 DF: £141.40 Tito:
2282.20 CSF £107.54

2282.20 CSF £107.54
4.50 (3m 1) ch) 1, BITOFAMDQIP (Mr P HScking, 9-4); 2, Howayman, (Mr A Parker, 7-1), 3, Ardbrennen (Mr £ Jernes, 8-1) 4.150 PAN, 7-4 lev Orchestral Sune (I), 9 Tom's Gernal Ster (I), 15 Johnny The Fox (ur), 20 Lumiga Gitier (6th), 9 aran NF: Making Time, The Rum Manner, Dist. 11, 111, 351, 4. M. Roberts, at Halisham Tote; £3.00; £1.50, £1.70, £2.80 DF £5.20, 7th; £9.10, £17.00

55.20. Tric: 99 10. CSF. £17.09
5.20. (Sm. 110yd hdie) 1. ESCAPTE-FIGUE (R Durwoody, 6-1 tav); 2. Big Strend (C Maude, 8-1); 3. Freddle Muck (T Janks. 10-1), 4. What A Question (C O'Dwyer, 15-2). ALSO RAN. 13-2 Erzadjen, 11 Denjing, 12 Brave Tornado, House Capitalin (p.d., 14 Dr. Laut (5th). Kingdom Of Shades, Silver Stred (pu). Smith Too, Tamerpour, 20 Top Spin, 25

Victor Bravo (6th), 33 Setter Times Ahead (pu), 100 Rose king (pu), 17 ran 3l, 5l, 1l, 3kl, hd. D Nicholson at Temple Guting Tole £5.50, £2.40, £2.40, £2.70, £1.70 DF: £36.40 Trio £190.40 CSF £49.62 Triossi £449.56 Jackpot: \$102,882.20 (0.2 winning tickets. Pool of \$115,923,70 carried forward to Aintree today).

Placepot: \$520.10. Quadpot: \$85.70. Leicester Going: film

2.25 (1m 8yd) 1, Sylvan Princess (M Rimmer, 5-2 ley), 2, Mirrosa (9-2), 3, Chartion imp (7-2), 6 ran, MR. Angel Face 1%, 2, D Cosgrove Tote £3, 00, £1.30, £2,80, DF, £5,10, CSF, £12,12. 2.95 (5/ 218yd) 1, Grand Ltd (M Roberts, 5-6 Jay), 2, Inclan Spark (5-1), 3, Instant Accord (3-1), Bran, 2-b., 11, R Armstong rate € 1.50, £1 10, £1 80, DF: £2 70, CSF DS-49

3.30 (51 218yd) 1. Brave Errory (5 Drowne, 7-1), 2 Teny's Rose (16-1); 3. Bellarula (16-1) Charlton Spring 11-4 (1-fav. 11 ren 14:), it. M Heation-Ells Tote: £11,70, £3.20, £3.40, £7.80, DF-£99.80 Trio not won (pool of £331.52 carned forward to 3.45 at Autree roday) CSF £113.54

4.08 (57 2yd) 1, Prince Foley (D McGalfin, 18-1), 2, Arian Da (16-1); 3, Sea Imp (25-1), Rejected 13-8 lav. 10 ran 2, 11-1 W G M Turner Tole 135.20, 24.80, 25.00, 24.80, 25.00, 24.80, 25.00,

4.40 (1m 3) 183yd) 1 Kota (K Fallon, 9-1), 2 Night Mirage (1-3 tay); 3, Three Cheels (7-2) 6 ran Nil, 7) J Wharton, Tote 17-50, 11-50, 51-40 DF 65-40, CSF 111-93 5.10 (1m 1) 216yd) 1, Stanton Harcourt (Pal Eddery, 1-2 lov); 2, Surtsey (7-2), 3, London's Heart (6-1) 6 ran NR, Namb-urca Western Sonata, Woodlands Lad Too 2:31, Mi J Dunkop Tote £1 30, £1 30, £2 40 DF, £2 90 Trio: £5.20, CSF £3 14.

2-40 (7) 1 Plausir D'Amour (Pat Eddey, 4-6 lav). 2 Ariervantes (12-1), 3, Mujova (14-1) 8 ran NR Night Dance, Last Chance Toise 21 80; 21 10, 22.30, 21 30 DF 211 10 Tho. £32 10 CSF 210 68. Thicast 257 36

Piscepot £1,219.40. Quisdpot £847.80. Taunton

Going: firm

2.45 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Co-Tack (Chris Webb, 13-2): 2, Anorsk (5-4 ji-lay): 3, Mesuar Goodsnough (13-2): Prince Eguname 6-4 ji-lay 4 rap, NR Any m 20, dist R Livermore, CSF £14 83 20, dist R Livermore, CSF 214 93
3.20 (3m ch) 1, Douslago (3 Supple, 4-7 lav); 2. Herbert Buchanen (5-4) 2 ran. 11l M Pips Tote: £1.30
3.65 (2m 11 hole) 1, Shifting Moon (D Byrne, 7-4); 2, Layram Low (7-2), 3, Unite Shetland (11-10 lav), 3 ran. 7, dist. F Jordan. Tote: £2 10, DF; £3.00. CSF: £5.98

4.80 (2m 110yd ch; 1 Northern Senger (T Dascombe, Evens lavt, 2, Keichican (4-1), 3, Inden Temple (7-4), 3 Jan 77, 153 R Hodges, Tote, £1,90 DF: £1,80 CSF £4,08

5.00 (3m ch) 1, L'Uomo Pu (Mr O McPholl, 10-1), 2, Rusiy Bindga (2-1 lav), 3, J B Lad (25-1), 7 ran, NR Manor Sound 1-kl, hd. A Barrow Fols: \$16-60; £2-60, 21,30 DF 29-20 CSF £30-46 Placepot: £308.20 Quadpot: £30.20.

#### COURSE SPECIALISTS

LINGFIELD PARIX Trainers: Lord Hunting-don, 48 winners from 228 urmers, 21 1%. I. Monkague Hall, 14 from 79, 17 7%, R Amegrong, 16 from 85, 17 6%, Mess G Fallywey, 27 from 153, 16 6%, G Lewis, 23 from 142, 16.5%; C Britanh, 30 from 198, 15 3% Jackeys: I. Derlor, 82 winners from 349 noise, 25 2%, D Holland, 45 from 179, 25 1%; Pas Eddery, 13 from 57, 22 8% R Cochrana, 64 from 365, 17.5%. S Wheworth, 40 from 247, 16 2%

SEDGEFIELD: Transm: H Oteer, 4 writners from 10 numers, 40.0%, Mrs M Reveley, 71 tom 245, 29 0%, J Fazgarald, 13 from 51, 25 5%, K Morgen, 3 from 14, 21 4%; G M Moore, 22 from 133, 16 5%; Mrs A Swenbank, 6 from 41, 14,6% Jockseys: Jacqui Oliver, 8 segment from 24 rades, 42 9%; G Lee, 9 from 41, 22,0%, M Fosler, 4 from 25, 16 0%; J Supple, 12 from 76, 15,6%, J Callaghan, 17 from 109, 15,6%.

#### SEDGEFIELD

2.10 Mick The Yank, 2.45 Diamond Beach, 3.20 Hee's A Dancer, 3.55 The Toaster, 4.30 Greenmount Lad. 5.00 Field Of Vision. Carl Evans: 4.30 Greenmount Lad.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

## 2.10 STONEGRAVE AGGREGATES NOVICES SELLING HAMDICAF HURDLE

(£2,077: 2m 5f 110yd) (15 runners) 1 4540 DONT FORGET CURTES 18 No. K Large 5-11-12 Miss 5 Lamb (7)
2 800 AMAZINIS SAL. 41 Life Minigan 4-11-1 — A S Smith
3 00-P DUBORT STRAND 64 K Margan 4-11-1 — X A S Smith
4 0945 ROYAL HAND 18 AV R Amness 7-10-5 — Mr R Agneri (7)
4 0945 ROYAL HAND 18 AV R Amness 7-10-5 — Mr R Agneri (8)
5 -095 GREENFINKT 18 (7) Miss A Ranges 6-10-6 — Mr R Agneri (8)
6 8300 ARTHUR BEE 18 E BOUSHES 10-10-3 — M Montes (9)
7 0-00- WHITEGATESPRINCESS 336 9 EMECH 6-10-2 C MECOTIMEN (7)
8 0065 MICK THE YANK 23 (8) H Cheft 7-10-1 — Jacop Giver (9)
9 0000 MISSIND KNIS 18 Miss M MARGES (6-10-) — M MONTES (9)
10 743- ROSTRIO 656 J Woode 8-10-0 — D Partie (7)
13 ROSS MEADOWN LADY 84 R Cagges 7-10-0 — B EXELLE (1)
13 ROSS MEADOWN LOW (1) W Years 8-10-0 — S Taylor (5)
14 URPP BROOMHIL DURCH 66 (8) J HELECAL JETTERN 7-10-0 A Dobben 15 000- MITE SPRITE 3-11 & Box 7-10-0 — M Herrocks (7)
4 Marchael Sal, 5-1 Archae fee, Door Fregel Casts, 7-1 Mon the test 6-1 gives 4-1 Amogog Sail, 5-1 Arthur See, Dord Forgel Conto. 7-1 Mars The Yest. 8-1 others

#### 2.45 STANLEY RACING GOLDEN NUMBERS

SERIES NOVICES HURDLE (£2,548. 2m 1f) (13) | 100 | MAPLE BAY 14F (F) & THEATH 3-11-6. | A Dorbbin | C 6041 SELVER MENO 36 (6.5) Mr. M. Revelop 5-11-6 | G Lee (3) | ADP BELEVE (F) ASS (M. M. Revelop 5-11-6 | G Lee (3) | ADP BELEVE (F) ASS (M. M. Revelop 5-11-6 | R. Supple 1,000 OVER STATED 18 J. Water 7-71-0 | K. Jones G (500) OVER STATED 18 J. Water 7-71-0 | K. Jones G (500) OVER STATED 18 J. Water 7-71-0 | K. Jones G (500) OVER STATED 18 J. Water 7-71-0 | K. Jones G (500) OVER STATED 18 J. Water 7-71-0 | K. Jones G (500) OVER STATED 18 J. Water 6-7-71-0 | K. Jones G (500) OVER STATED 18 J. Water 6-7-71-0 | K. Jones G (500) OVER STATED 18 J. Water 6-7-71-0 | K. Jones G (500) OVER STATED 18 J. Water 6-7-71-0 | K. Jones G (500) OVER STATED 18 J. Water 6-7-10-8 | E (2018) J. Water 19 J. M. Sampur (7) | C (100) J. Water 19 J. Water 19 J. Water 19 J. March 1 7-2 So Clients 4-1 Silent Buest, 9-2 Disprend Bests 5-1 Maple Bay 6-1 others

#### 3.20 WASHINGTON HOSPITAL NOVICES CHASE

3743 THIN FALLS (7 (D.F.G.S) & Gloop 6-11-12 . J Calleghes PGP ARSTODEMIS 11 May 1 Manager 9-11-0 . I Johnson BOUR DISTRICT HELD 11 TO VINCENSE 9-11-0 . II Johnson GUIP GONE ASMORE 78 M Bornes 6-11-0 . J Brist 225 ITE A DEAL RESP (G) S Crusterta 11-11-0 . II Cahall 34-PD MORODYS FLAME 24 S Protection 3-11-0 . Mr 1 J Bristy 7-11-0 . AD Dolbon TRODAYS MORE 11 E Concess 5-11-0 . J Bristy 7-11-0 . AD Dolbon TRODAYS MORE 11 E Concess 5-11-0 . J Bristy 7-11-0 . AD Dolbon TRODAYS MORE 11 E Concess 5-11-0 . J Bristy 7-11-0 . AD Dolbon TRODAYS MORE 11 E Concess 5-11-0 . J Bristy 7-11-0 . AD Dolbon TRODAYS MORE 11 E Concess 5-11-0 . J Bristy 7-11-0 . AD Dolbon TRODAYS MORE 11 E Concess 5-11-0 . J Bristy 7-11-0 . AD STORM THE SA DANCER 31 (F) Mass 1 Researt 5-10-1 . M Foster 9-900 WHITEGATES WILLE 17 J Hoursed Jerman 5-10-1 . A S Smith Solid Land Concess 5-11-0 . See 1-11-0 . See 1-11-0 . A Signal Solid Land Concess 5-11-0 . See 1-11-0 . See 1-11-0 . A Signal Solid Land Concess 5-11-0 . A Signal Solid Land

#### 3.55 REG AND RIDLEY LAMB MEMORIAL

HANDICAP CHASE (£3,496: 2m 5l) (b) 3 1383 REVE DE VALEE 24 (F.G.S) R Johnson 10-10-8 K Johnson 4 1380 GERMAN LEGEND 4 (F) D Lamb 7-10-2 K Johnson 5 PAPP GRAND SCHEFFT 22 (B.F.S.) It bears Johnson 9-10-2 A 5 Smath 6 PGPU DUDCAL CROSSETT 11 E Care 12-10-6 Mr M H Maughton (5)

5-4 The Toasier, 5-2 Reutle Air, 6-1 Grand Sciencey Reve De Valse 8-1 others.

#### 4.30 STANLEY THOMPSON MEMORIAL HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,604\* 3m 3f) (5)

1 6532 BOREEN DIVERT OF (CDLE.) D harmoon 35-11-9 A Pantari 2 0485 RSH DUAY 13P (F.S.S) Are Lamb 14-11-9 Mess \$ Lamb 3 PSH GREENWOLMT LAD 13P (G.S.) L'Orritoris 5-11-9 P. Comforth 4 2464 LIVERSL 11 (CDL) R Infraren 12-11-9 P. Johnson 5 AFO LA MAJA 13P H Witzon 8-11-4 C. Multell 4-5 Greenropunt Last, 4-1 Boreen Owen, 5-1 Upnett, 8-1 Fish Query 10-1 La Maja

#### 5.00 John Joyce Handigap Hurdle (£2,320: 2m 1i) (10)

#### LINGFIELD PARK

#### THUNDERER

2.20 Days Of Grace. 2.55 Deep Water. 3.30 Tuigamala. 4.05 Ertion. 4.40 Davoski. 5.10 Robo Magic.

#### GOING. FIRM (TURF COURSE); STANDARD (ALL-WEATHER) DRAW. NO ADVANTAGE

#### 2.20 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND TANDRIDGE MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-0 £3,232 5f) (8 numers)

FLALANG EMBER B Merran 9-0 M Tebhoto KEYSER SOZE D Haydo Joses 9-0 C Ruther COCH JURGO VI Subject 9-0 D Harrson SACCHETTI N Crumon 9-0 Y Quinn 4 (4) 5 (6) 6 (7) 7 (5) 8 (7) S SUGGEST 15 (BF) Mas G Kellency 9-0. I Maland B RANGHORHAN BLADE 13 K Morth 8-9 Mario Dispers (1) DAYS OF GRACE 15 Matter Made 9-9. Pet Eddery MANGUISHIKA R Hamon 3-9 Pet Eddery 15-8 Naraustika 7-2 Sacrieta 4-1 Saggest 9-2 Furning Ember 6-1 Days 3 Grade 13-1 Acycle Sole 14-1 offices

## 2.55 BAKERS LANE MAIDEN STAKES (53.677 6f) (6).

## 2-1 Deep Water 5-2 Makitin, 5-1 Little Annie, 6-1 Cambridge Blue, 7-1 others.

#### 3.30 WEATHERBYS BULLETIN MAGAZINE HANDICAP (All-weather: £2.914, 1m 2f) (10)

11) 312- AMAK-4U 242 (S) Mass G Melvessy 4-10-0 inges Gallenots (7) 90 inges Gallenots (7) 90 inges Gallenots (7) 90 inges Gallenots (7) inges Gallenots (7) inges Gallenots (7) inges Gallenots (8) inges Gal 1 11) 312- ANAK-KU 242 (S) Mrz G Mellerin 4-10-0 (7) 0541 SWEET SUPPOSEN 11 (V CD,G) C Dayor 6-9-12 5 Cr. 1213 CALENDRA 27 (8F.G) B Moviey 4-9-2 G Carrer 97
8 (10) -032 TURGARANA 31 (C.BF.F.G) R Mayam 6-9-3 A McGlone 97
151-122 SHAMGHAI ILL 43 (C.BF.F.G) M F-Godie; 5-9-0 F Norton 98
8 (6) 2241 ANY-SOME POWER 8 (CD.G) 1-M2 11-9-0 (Se.) A Clark 99
14 4415 ANY-SOME POWER 8 (CD.G) 1-M2 11-9-0 (Se.) A Clark 99
14 4415 ANY-SOME POWER 8 (CD.G) 1-M2 11-9-0 (Se.) A Clark 99
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7-2 Apollo Red, 5-1 Sharp Imp. 7-1 terry's Snab HPm, Pusple Firing 8-1 Interest Robo Magic, 10-1 Str Tastor, 12-1 others

## EXCLUSIVE TIMES NEWSPAPERS GRAND PRIX COMPETITION



# £40,000 of prizes to be won Enter a team today for the Argentine Grand Prix

#### HOW THE POINTS WERE SCORED IN BRAZIL

DRIVERS: Qualifying points (scored by qualifying for the start of each grand prix within the first 20 positions on the grid): Pole J Villeneuve 30 points; 2nd M Schumacher 25; 3rd G Berger 24; 4th M Hakkinen 23; 5th O Panis 22; 5th J Alasi 21; 7th G Fishichella 20; 8th H-H Frentzen 19; 9th D Hill 18; 10th R Schumacher 17; 11th R Barrichello 16; 12th D Coulthard 15; 13th J Herbert 14; 14th E Irvine 13; 15th S Nakano 12; 16th P Diniz 11; 17th J Trull 10; 18th U Katayama 9; 19th N Larini 8; 20th J Magnussen 7. Finishing points (scored for the top 20 positions at the end of every grand prix): 1st J Villeneuve 50 points; 2nd G Berger 50; 3rd O Panis 40; 4th M Hakkinen 30; 5th M Schumscher 29; 6th J Alesi 28; 7th J Herbert 27; 8th G Fishichelle 26; 9th H-H Frentzen 25; 10th D Coulthard 24; 11th N Larini 23; 12th J Truill 22; 13th M Salo 21; 14th S Nakano 20; 15th J Verstappen 19; 18th E Irvine 18; 17th D Hill 17; 18th U Katayama 16. (Only 18 finished). Lep points (one point for each lap completed): J Villeneuve 72 points; G Berger 72; O Panis 72; M Hakkinen 72; M Schumacher 72; J Alesi 72; J Herbert 72; G Fishichella 72; HH Frentzen 72; D Coulthard 71; N Larini 71; J Truill 71; M Salo 71; S Nakano 71; J Verstappen 70; E Irvine 70; D Hill 68 (DNF); U Katayama 67; R Schumacher 52; R Barrichelio 15; P Diniz 15. Improvement from starting grid to finishing position (3 points for each improved place): M Salo 27 points; N Larini 24; J Herbert 18; J Verstappen 18; J Truill 15; O Panis 6; O Coulthard 6; G Berger 3; S Nakano 3. Fastest lap time of grand prix J Villeneuve 10 points. Penalty points. Incident resulting in a driver being made to start from back of grid or pit tane (10 points deducted): none, Elimination during the race (10 points deducted): D Hill -10 points; R Schumacher -10; R Barrichello -10; P Diniz -10. Not starting after qualifying (10 points deducted); none. Speeding in the pit lene (5 points deducted); none.

CONSTRUCTORS Finishing points (scored for the first car only in the top 20 positions at the end of every grand prix): Williams 30 points; Benetton 25; Prost 24; McLaren 23; Ferran 22; Sauber 20; Jordan 19; Minardi 15; Tyrrell 14; Arrows 10. Penalty points Incident resulting in a car being made to start from back of grid or pit tane (10 points deducted): none. Elimination of a car during the race (10 points deducted): Arrows -20 points; Jordan -10; Stewart -10. Not starting after qualifying (10 points deducted): none. Speeding in the pit tane (5 points deducted): none.

The Fantasy Formula One scores for the Brazilian Grand Prix in Interlagos appear below with the total points gained by each driver and constructor so far. They show Berger leading the drivers with 272 points and McLaren heading the constructors with 53 points. The Brazilian race was also the first of our six bonus races which saw only 26 team managers gain the full 600 bonus points, from more than 65,000 playing our £40,000 game, for correctly predicting the

first, second and third placed drivers. The winner of the trip for two to the British GP for the performance of his or her team at Interlagos was PIN number

5263373069 (no name supplied). This mystery person scored 1.523 points and heads our leaderboard with 2084 points. The second highest score was achieved by B Day of Staines, Middlesex. His team, Tetch Meistors R. scored 1,499 points and lies in second place on The Times leaderboard with 2043 points. He wins a Sony PlayStation and CD-Rom games. There is still plenty of time to enter a team for the Argentine Grand Prix by choosing six racing drivers and six constructors - three from each of the four groups below. Lines are open for registration until noon on Thursday, April 10. You can also use our transfer lines and check your position on our table.

#### CONTRACTOR AND COMES TO SECURE MAKE THREE SELECTIONS FROM EACH OF THE FOUR GROUPS BELOW

The first column of figures in light type after the names show the Paritasy Formula One Brazilian GP race scores, the second column the total competition points so fail

CONSTRUCTORS DRIVERS 140 '257 19 G Fishichella 93 90 07 M Hakkinen 125 253 13 O Panis 02 M Schumacher 128 261 08 D Coulthard 116 266 14 J Verstappen 107 99 20 S Nakano 172 192 09 R Barrichello 22 77 15 U Katayama 92 128 21 N Larini. **63** J Villeneuve 15 23 101 113 10 H-H Frentzen 116 222 16 P Diniz 16 130 22 J Trulli 04 E mina -10 -30 0 0 23 J Magnussen 131 141 17 R Rosset 121 164 11 J Herbert

#### FANTASY FORMULA ONE 24-HOUR ENTRY LINE: 0891 405 001

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119 160 18 R Schumacher 59 65 24 V Sospin

0891 calls cost 50p per minute (standard tariffs apply to +44 990 calls). ● For inquiries call 01582 702 720, Mon-Fri, 9am to 5pm

#### THE PRIZES

JACKPOT The team manager heading our Fantasy Formula One leaderboard after the European Grand Prix at Estorii, Portugal, on October 26, will win £25,000. Prizes of £10,000 and £5,000 will go to two

INDIVIDUAL RACE WINNERS The manager of the team which scores the most points in the Argentine Grand Prix will win a trip for two to the British

Grand Prix on July 13. The runner-up will get a Sony PlayStation with a Formula One and Porsche Challenge game worth

£250.



#### TRANSFERS

if you've already entered a team you can change up to four selections before the Argentine GP by calling 0891 555 994 (++44 990 100 394 ex UK) before roon on Thursday April 10. Your new team must comprise three selections from each of groups A, B, C and D. The first three selections you make will be deemed to be your prediction for the Monaco GP bonus points.

#### CHECK YOUR SCORE

Players can check the scores and positions of their teams by calling the 24-hour checkline 0891 884 648 (Republic of Ireland 0044 990 100 348) and tapping in their 10-digit PIN number. The line currently carries all positions after the Brazilian Grand Prix and will be updated again on Wednesday April 16 after the Argentine GP.

#### TO ENTER BY PHONE

06 G Bergel

Call our entry hotline on 0891 405 001 be made using a Touch-tone telephone (most telephones with \* and # keys are Touch-tone). Follow the instructions on the entry line

and tap in your 12 two-digit selections in turn. The order in which you register your first three drivers will be your predictions for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd finishing places for the grands prix where bonus points apply. You will then be asked to give your Fantasy Formula One team name, together with your own name, address, postcode and daytime telephone number (please note. you need to speak these details). You will receive a 10-digit PIN number as confirmation of your entry. Please keep a record of this with your team details.

(+44 990 100 311 outside the UK). Calis last approximately seven minutes and must

You can enter a team at any time until

noon on Thursday, April 10, to qualify for

the start of the Argentine Grand Prix.

## BY POST/FAX

with your 12 two-digit selections. The order in three drivers will be your the grands prix where bonus points apply. You will receive a 10-digit PIN number to confirm your

Or fax the form with your credit-card details to 01582 452106 (+44 1582 452106 outside the UK). To qualify for the Argentine Grand Prix. postal entries must arrive by first post Tuesday April

## Complete the form, right,

which you register your first predictions for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd finishing places for

8, and faxed entries by noon on that day.

Complete this form with your credit-card details, or enclose a sterling cheque for £2.50 payable to Fantasy Formula One, and post it to: The Times Fantasy Formula One, Abacus House, Dudley Street, Luton LU1 1ZZ. Or fax it on 01582 452106 (+44 1582 452106 outside the UK). The closing date for receipt of this form to qualify for the Argentine Grand Prix is first post Tuesday, April 8 1997, and noon on that day for faxed entries. **GROUPS A AND B DRIVERS** Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms ...... Initials

THE TIMES FANTASY FORMULA ONE ENTRY FORM

GROUP C AND D CONSTRUCTORS , Daytime Tel ...... Postcode ... Credit Card Payment Card number: 

Name on card .. Supply address of registered cardholder on a senarate sheet of paper if different from that above

444

# Brown calls for caution as Scots celebrate

BY KEVIN MCCARRA

SCOTLAND may have put them-selves in with an excellent chance of reaching the World Cup finals, but it is not a position with which they are entirely comfortable. After the 2-0 victory over Austria in the group four qualifying match at Celtic Park, Craig Brown, the manager, squirmed uneasily at talk of the strides his team had made towards a place in France next year.

Brown spoke, quite properly, of the hazards contained in the next fixture, in Gothenburg, and of the ambitions that Sweden and Austria still harbour of winning the group.
All the same, no amount of good sense could drown out the supporters on Wednesday, who sang: "Que sera sera, whetever will be, will be,

we're going to Gay Paree ..."

In the stands there was no learned discussion of the fact that Scotland,

with their seven-point lead, have played two matches more than their principal rivals. In any case, faith rests not on arithmetic, but on a calculation of the heart.

The Scotland team is the focus of a public affection that has been absent for almost 20 years. The 1978 World Cup was, like one of Don Quixote's adventures, the stuff of delusion, but while exaggeration is no longer permitted, attendances are subject

On Wednesday, there were 43,295 people at Celtic Park. They had surely come to witness a puzzle as much as an achievement. In the leading tournaments, only Greece, with a dubious penalty, and England have beaten Scotland since December 1994, yet these standards have been set by a curious assortment of players gathered from a variety of backgrounds.

Gary McAllister, of Coventry



City, and John Collins, of AS Monaco, have earned esteem in the sport and were at the heart of a series of beautifully articulated moves in the second half, when Scotland were on the verge of embarrassing Austria as well as defeating them. Players of less exalted reputation, however, mattered just as much. Darren Jackson, who is attempt-

ing to ward off relegation with Flibernian, is suffering with a badly bruised shoulder and, on the morning of the game, was reluctant to play because he feared that he might only last a few minutes. Dragooned into the side and heavily strapped, he nonetheless went on to harass a ponderous Austria defence, creating the first of Kevin Gallacher's two goals.

Jackson's team-mate at Easter Road, Jim Leighton, is swathed in a greater reputation, but it is still startling that, at the age of 39, he scens to be improving. On his 77th appearance for his country, the coalkeeper kept his fortieth clean sheet for them.

In the past four years, Leighton has been selected only when Andy Goram has been injured, but Brown is now giving his first hints that the order of precedence could be reversed.

"Jim was magnificent," the man-teer said. I have twice had to tell him that he was being left out because I believed that Goram was the more suitable choice, but I would have no hesitation about saying the same thing to Andy."

Brown is liable to be trusted with

the verdict, for he is in the midst of a phase when his decisions prove unerringly effective. There was wily

intelligence at work in the decision to omit Paul McStay and prefer Paul Lambert, a defensive midfield player, who was detailed to stifle Andreas Herzog.

Brown knew, of course, how effectively that task had already been performed at club level this season, when Borussia Dortmund, Lambert's club, defeated Herzog's Werder Bremen 40. The impact of managers, though, has its limits, and none of his preparatory work wholly explains the alchemy of excitement that allows players to

In football, emotions underpin events, and when Gallacher made sure of victory with an instinctive, curling drive that finished high in the corner of Konsel's net, the thrill of the occasion and the yearning of a Scot to assist his country were all implicit in the sweet contact of boot on ball.

SQUASH

#### Harris's progress intercepted by Jenson

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BY COLIN McQUILLAN

DAN JENSON, the longlimbed Australian who beat the fourth seed, Simon Parke, in the first round of the Leekes British Open Championship in Cardiff on Tuesday, took his elegant game to new heights yesterday to remove Del Harris 15-5, 12-15, 10-15, 15-14, 17-14 in the second

Rarely can such large play-ers — each stands over off — have produced such a close contest. Harris, 27, from Essex, held two match points at the end of the fourth game only to have Jenson, 21. fight his way back into the match with a feather-light backhand drop shot played at full stretch in the single-point tie-break. The Australian reached

match point at 14-12 in the fifth game, only for Harris to force another tie-break with an inspired forehand drop volley, executed on the turn at the end of an exhausting raily, and an astonishing backhand retrieval that he somehow converted into a cross-court passing shot. Jenson went on to secure victory thanks to an unforced error by Harris and a beautifully disguised backhand drop shot that was followed by a penalty stroke as Harris failed to stay clear of the Australian forehand backswing in mid-

To see these huge men speeding around such a tight environment — spinning to cover skilfully disguised deliv-eries, lunging and recovering with extraordinary athleticism — was to see men's fighting squash at its best.

To further enhance the occa sion, Jenson is in the oldfashioned mode of Australian sport, responding with hardly a grimace when faced with the harshest of decisions, and Harris was, for the most part, too intensely involved to indulge the truculance that sometimes mars his perform-

In the quarter-finals, Jenson will meet Ahmed Barada, the improving teenager from Egypt, who yesterday dealt firmly with Stephen Meades, of Berkshire, to win 15-9, 15-9, 15-9 in 45 minutes.

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## Beckham in line for a double

DAVID BECKHAM, the Manchester United and England midfield player, could achieve a remarkable double after learning yesterday that he had been nominated as both player and young player of the year in the Professional Footballers' Association awards. The last player to win both in the same season was Andy Gray, of Aston Villa, in

Joining Beckham and Roy Keane, his United team-mate, in the senior nominees are Gianfranco Zola. Chelsea's Italian forward, Alan Shearer, in spite of his injury problems, Ian Wright and Steve McManaman. The awards will be made on Sunday, April 13.

SHORTUSTS: Player of the Year: D Beckham, R Keane (both Manchester United), S McManaman (Liverpool), A Shearer (Newcaste), I Winght (Arsanal), G Zole (Chelsea), Young Player of the Year: Beckham, O G Solidigar (both Manchester United). R Fowler (Liverpool), E Heskey (Lelcester), C Parry (Wimbledon), P Vieira (Arsanal)

Sailing: The British team representing the Royal Dorset Yacht Club's planned challenge for the America's Cup in 2000 started brightly in a Road To America's Cup regatta in Auckland, with two wins in its first two races. The British crew, led by Chris Law, beat Ed Baird's Young America in their first race yesterday and followed it up with a win over Dawn Riley's America True team.

☐ Boxing: Lennox Lewis, Britain's World Boxing Council heavyweight champion, could face Henry Akinwande in London on the eve of the Wimbledon men's singles final. If Lewis' promoters, Panos Eliades and the New Jersey-based Dino Duva, of Main Events, win the purse bidding to be held in Las Vegas next Wednesday, a contest date of July 5 is their main target.

Rowing: Peter Haining, the Auriol Kensington rower, is unlikely to defend his Scullers Head title on Saturday. He is suffering from a severe cough

# Cornwall's finest happy to resort to the quiet life

Taking the 25-minute train ride from Liskeard to Looe, in Corn-wall, is like being transported back in time. The single-carriage conveyance trundles gently down the valley, skirting the river and past grazing cattle and sheep. farms and holiday homes, impenetrable woodland and Christmas tree plantations. At Coombe junction, the ticket collector dons his fluorescent jacket, disembarks and changes the points.

Getting on or off at St Keyne, Causeland or Sandplace is by request to the driver. At the few crossings, signs politely advise motorists to give way to the trains. "It's not really a case of escaping the rat race," Martin Boden-ham said, "but it is so lovely down here. So quiet, so peaceful; no traffic, no smog."

Bodenham, who will referee the Coca-Cola Cup final between Leicester City and Mid-dlesbrough on Sunday, lives at the end of the line, at Heron Creek, high on the cliffs above East Look that look out to sea and beyond; high above the claustrophobic streets, steep alleys and souvenir shops, some of which still stubbornly refuse to accept credit cards. Wembley, the FA Carling

ridden world of football is of another planet. Normality for Bodenham, 46, is watching the fishing fleet return to harbour, the frigates en route to and from Devonport or the seagulis swirling in the breeze outside his lounge window.

"I used to come down here every year and I just loved the



Russell Kempson meets the

Wembley referee who can escape from football's pressure

place," he said. "I saw the house and bought it straight away. I suppose you could say the views are panoramic; actually, they're sensational."

In his tidy hideaway, hewn out of the hillside in 1940, and amid the multitudinous refereeing mementoes that neatly adom the walls and cabinets, Bodenham reflected on an allconsuming passion of 31 years. He was born in Brighton, privately educated at Goring Hall in Worthing and worked in Sussex until finally suc-cumbing to the lure of Looe nine years ago.

"I played a bit of football at school, but I was told by my sports master, in no uncertain terms, that I would not be good enough to become a professional," he said. "He told me to try refereeing, so I

"I was a bit lucky at first. I was quite a big lad and I suppose, even at 16, I had a bit of presence about me. I got my Class One pretty quickly, at 21, and reffed in the Sussex Sunday League. I'd sometimes do didn't have a car so I had to go everywhere by bus. I had a

good grounding." He has subsequently officiated around the world - in Japan, alongside Gary Line-ker, at the inception of the J-League; in Spain, at the Bernabéu stadium, home of Real Madrid; and in Greece,

where he ran the line when AC Milan beat Barcelona in the European Cup final three

years ago. Tbilisi, where he took charge of the European championship qualifying tie between Georgia and Germany, also proved enlightening. "Leading up to the game, everywhere was dark." he said. You could see candles burning in the houses. Apperently, all the electricity had been turned off to conserve energy for the floodlights."

odenham lives alone, except for the squawking seaguils, and does not have a job. Though he once worked as an articled clerk and an insurance agent, shrewd property deals now allow him to exist in harmony with his bank. "I bought and sold at the: right time," he said. "Then Igot our."

He enjoys the solitude,

though occasionally provides bed-and-breakfast for friends. "I've got good neighbours and quite a bit." he said. Fellow Premiership referees have been known to seek sanctuary at Heron Creek, away from the glare of the action replay. Cricket and horse racing, though he rarely bers, consume his idle moments. A talented wicketkeeper-batsman in his youth - "I had a



Bodenham prepares for the Coca-Cola Cup final by relaxing in Loce — the perfect antidote to hig-match anxieties

good pair of hands" - he spent two years as groundsman for Sussex CCC and was once twelfth man for a tour match against Barbados. He also treasures his 1903 Oldsmobile, which is worth E25,000 and looked after by Betty in Brighton, a takes it out for a 14mph spin

when he can. Driving his Volvo is more tiresome - Southampton, at 330 miles the round trip, is his nearest "home" fixture - yet Bodenham prefers it to travelling by rail. "I was going to Newcastle last year and a bloke held up the buffet car,"

he said. "He put a gun to the steward's head, took the cash and went back to his seat. I don't know whether he was drunk or mad, but I've since gone by road."

Looe is coming alive, the holiday season almost here. scrawled "Stuff the sleazy Tories!" on the train into town, Yet it still retains its charm, its tranquility; a soothing anti-dote to Bodenham's Premiership existence. "Stress doesn't really worry me, I don't feel the pressure, but it's always nice to come back here," he



From Torquay to Tokyo, an official's job is not an easy one

#### Tiverton brought down to earth in their pursuit of perfection The players were back in the dressing-rooms David Powell witnesses sad ending of A after the game and Alan Morgan, the visitors' physioa long record of success on the pitch therapist, was standing out-side the door. As he looked for it was about to disappear prepared to face Taumon

across the ground, there was frustration in his voice. "We have just won the league championship tonight and it's dead," he said. "Everybody is down. I don't see why everybody is down." Perfection is a rare accom-

plishment and few get close to feeling its vibration. Even fewer experience it. The 147 break in snooker, the ninedart finish, six sixes off an over, the 12 successive strikes in tenpin bowling that make a maximum 300, seven wins in a seven-race programme, Frankie Dettori style. For 104 years, football clubs in the Western League have striven for perfection, the 100 per cent winning record, without suc-

This season, though, Tiverton Town, have been not just the talk of the town, but the talk of the south-west, Their league record, as they Town on Wednesday night, was played 26, won 26. Thirty consecutive Screwfix Direct Western League victories, including four at the end of last The 26 successive wins is a

league record. Closest to per-fection were Bideford, in 1949-50, when, in the third division, they won 19, drew one and lost If there was one fixture likely to stand in the way of Tiverton winning all 34 league matches in a season, it was Taunton away. Taunton, the champions, were still, theoretically, in with a chance of retaining their title, eight points behind, though having

played three games more. Another 20 points separated second from third. At half-time, a father pointed out Hale-Bopp to his son. He might have been pointing the way of Tiverton's record,

into the night sky. After another 45 minutes play. Taunton were celebrating a 2-2

A draw, however, was enough to remove Taunton from the championship betting. For Alan Morgan, Martyn Rogers, the Tiverton manager, and his players, it was a satisfying 90 minutes work. "The league title is almost ours." Rogers said. Two wins from their last

seven games and Rogers will take a third championship in four years. No other Tiverton manager has won it even once. That, though, was no cause for celebration among the Tiverton supporters, who left quietly, sad at the loss of their

They are disappointed we have not won," Rogers said.
"When you have won 26 on the trot, they are desperate for the

Exeter City team that deleated Newcastle United 40 in the 1980-81 FA Cup at St James Park [south-west]. He then found himself defending against Hoddle and Ardiles in the quarter-finals, but a 2-0 defeat left his Wembley dream

unfulfilled.

Fulfilment came 12 years later when Rogers took Tiverton to Wembley in the FA Vase. Once again Tiverton will not be promoted to the Dr Martens League, because their ground is not up to standard. Rogers, the commercial manager as well as football manager, said that plans were in hand to build a new stand but, even when the ground is ready, the club will stay in the Western League until it can be sure of its

"My main objective is to get to the Vase final again," Rog-ers said, "If we move up, I will not be able to do that." To the football fan, if there is one thing better than perfection, it is seeing your team walk out at Wembley.

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## Dagenham driven by Wembley dream

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL BY WALTER GAMOLIE

THE semi-finals of the FA Umbro Trophy, the first legs of which are held tomorrow, will guarantee the first Wem-bley appearance of a side from outside the Vauxhall Conference since Leek Town lost to Barrow in 1990.

While one march is a heavyweight, all-Conference confrontation - Stevenage Borough, whose priorities remain con-fused after the defeats of Kidderminster Harriers and Macclesfield Town on Monday kept their league hopes alive, taking on Woking - the other match pits

Dagenham and Redbridge against Gloucester City.

Dagenham lost their Conference place

last season and have been forced to watch from a distance as Yeovil Town and Enfield turned the Icis League into a private contest. Gloucester, meanwhile, as usual in recent seasons, have been challenging at the head of the Dr Martens League, where second place would be good enough to gain promotion because Gresley Rovers, the long-time leaders, will not have their new ground

For Dave Andrews, who became chairman of Leytonstone in 1974 and has

dub's evolution into Dagenham and Redbridge, said: "I feel we are now settled as a club. The Trophy semi-final appearance is a bonus, not something that the committee or the spectators could have expected. It's down to Ted Hardy and the players. If I was one of them [the players] I'd run myself into a standstill, because what's in front of them could be

a fantastic day."

Andrews should know. The former England amateur international appeared in the Walthamstow Avenue and Leytonstone FA Amateur Cup-winning teams at Wembley in 1958 and 1968.

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ATHLETICS

McColgan

will face

formidable

challenge

BY DAVID POWELL ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THE closer Liz McColgan gets to defending her Flora London Marathon title on Sunday week, the harder her job looks. Not that there is anything wrong with McColgan's form.

it is just that the field is

European and world champi-

on, was added to an already

formidable line-up yesterday.

Among the sub-plots will be a

meeting between the gold and

silver medal-winners from the

1995 world championships in Gothenburg — Machado and

Machado, from Portugal.

and Catuna, from Romania,

will lead the overseas chall-

enge, with Ren Xiujuan, from China, the half-marathon world champion, and Joyce

Chepchumba, from Kenya.

runner-up to McColgan in

London last year. Marian Sutton, from Cornwall, the

Chicago Marathon champion,

will help McColgan to defend

On her only previous ap-pearance in London, in 1995.

Machado finished second to

Anuta Catuna.

stacking up against her. Manuela Machado, the

# Johansson loses way on first step of venture

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT IN NEW ORLEANS

GREG NORMAN, who has not played in New Orleans since 1993, wasted no time in making his presence selt in this part of Louisiana in the first round of the Freeport McDermott Classic yesterday. It is not often that someone as distinguished as Norman starts as early as 7.36 - he was in the fifth group - and to prove that he was well and truly awake. Norman birdied three of his first four holes and completed his front nine in 33, three under par, finishing with a 67.

This was a much better start than that made by Per-Ulrik Johansson. The Swede, who will be the fourth from his country to compete in the Masters, went to the turn at English Turn Golf and Country Club in 40, four over par.

Johansson recled home in 42 for an 82, 17 strokes worse than Larry Rinker and Scott McCarron, the early leaders. It was one of the worst rounds of Johansson's career as a

He had a double bogey on the 1st, his tenth, and at the end he wore the dazed look of a man who had been involved in a car accident. "I missed it in the wrong places all the time," he said. "I am rusty, but actually I felt pretty good on the driving range. I knew I hadn't played very much, but I didnot expect it to be as bad as this. I have to work at it."

On Wednesday, Sam Torrance had been standing at the door to the clubhouse when Johansson went past on his way to the practice ground, his clubs slung in a bag over his shoulder. "Got enough woods there, Per?" Torrance said. Johansson had at least six in his bag. "I'm trying out some new ones," he said.

Johansson, a Ryder Cup pulling on a slack repe'. It player at Oak Hill two years hurs me to perform the way I ago, needs the practice.

Though he spent one month in asking myself: 'What the hell Phoenix early in the year practising, he is short of competition. This is only his third tournament of the year after finishing twentieth in Dubai in early March and sixth in Morocco a week later.

He had intended to play in Portugal but, when his girlfriend was injured in a car accident, he returned to Sweden for three weeks while she recuperated. He spent last weekend in Orlando practising under the eye of David Leadbetter, with whom he has worked since 1991

Johansson is looking forward to competing for the first time at Augusta, where he and Jesper Parnevik will make up the Swedish complement this year. He has been to the famous tournament twice before, once as a spectator when he was a student in the United States and once as a commentator for Swedish television.

"I made an arrangement with Nick Faldo to play a practice round with him on Monday or Tuesday at Augusta," Johansson said. "He is a good guy, though it is hard to get to know him. I like fast greens and I expect I shall spend most of my time on the greens. What I would like to know from Nick are the pin positions. I want him to tell me where I cannot go and where not to miss it."

José Maria Olazábal, like Torrance, was not due to tee off until later in the day. Olazabal's improvement had continued when he played well in the pro-am. Every step that he takes marks a step towards recovery and, to judge by the way he is playing, it is no wonder he wears a smile on his face most of the time these

Ben Crenshaw, on the other hand, has had nothing to smile about all year. The champion here in 1994, when Olazábal finished second and went on to victory in the Masters, Crenshaw has had more rounds in the 30s (two) than in the 60s (one) and has not won a penny this year — the worst start of his 23 years as a professional.

"It has been bleak." Crenshaw said, "It's like Bobby Jones said: 'I feel like I am is going on?" At lunchtime on Tuesday,

Crenshaw felt more optimistic. "Tom Watson and Butch [Harmon] discovered a flaw on the practice ground at Jacksonville," Crenshaw said, in his soft voice that you have to strain to hear. "I have been hitting it too much with my hands, making a slap at it. They got me to make a fuller turn and I feel much more confident now."



Harris, the subject of rugby league's second-highest transfer fee, gets used to his new kit and surroundings yesterday. Photograph: Andrew Varley

## Harris puts future in hands of Leeds

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

LEEDS Rhinos are trusting that their £325,000 purchase of lestyn Harris yesterday rugby league's second-biggest transfer fee - will have the same impact as that of another record signing by the club, 45 years ago. Lewis Jones was also a young gifted Welshman. Appropriately, he was at Headingley yesterday to greet the arrival of Harris from Warrington Wolves.

Jones, the Leeds record points-scorer in a prodigious 12-year career, summed up a statement of intent by Leeds in acquiring potentially the best and most creative talent of his generation. "We're short of individual players in this day and age. lestyn is a brilliant individual and Leeds are the biggest club," he said.

After nine months of rancour at Warrington, during which he was banned from the club twice and doubted whether he would play again, Harris was relieved to have his future finally settled by a five-year contract with Leeds. He is in the squad for the visit of Wigan Warriors in the Stones Super League tonight. Harris, 22, fell out with Warrington over his best pos-

ition. He sees himself as a stand-off half, but Dean Bell, the Leeds coach, was giving nothing away on that point. "I have a preference, but I'll play anywhere I'm placed," Harris said. "I've a point to prove - to Warrington mainly, but also to myself." Lewis, then the golden boy

of Welsh rugby union, received £6,000 from Leeds for his move from Llanelli in 1952.

Harris, the 1995 international player of the year, resisted overtures from union and had his heart set on joining St Helens before the Super League champions withdrew from a deal last week and Leeds came up with a package acceptable to Warrington - worth £350,000 overall, with Danny Sculthorpe, an academy centre, moving from Headingley to Wilderspool.

The package is dwarfed by the £500,000 cash-and-players deal made by St Helens for Paul Newlove in 1995, but is second in money-only terms to the £440,000 Wigan paid Widnes for Martin Offiah in 1992. It comfortably beats the club record £250,000 fee, Leeds paid to Wigan six years ago for Ellery Hanley.

Harris has made two appearances for Warrington this season. In his only sustained playing spell since last sumplayers have left and not been mer, his performances on Great Britain's South Pacific tour last October were notice-On the coaching merry-goably affected by the wrangling

In a day of comings and goings at Warrington, Darryl Van de Velde arrived to take over the coaching position vacated last week by another Australian, John Dorahy. In an ironic twist, John Joiner, who took over at Castleford from Van de Velde in 1993, resigned yesterday by mutual consent with the club's board. ending a 25-year association at

at Warrington. "I've kept my

get out on the field again."

self fit. Now all I want to do is

Wheidon Road. It is only three years since Joiner was coach of the year. but Castleford have suffered a remorseless decline as leading

replaced. They are without a win at the bottom of the Super

round, Van de Velde is the third new face in the Super League since the season began, after the appointments by Wigan and Halifax of Eric Hughes and John Pendlebury

in the fall-out from an angry Challenge Cup semi-final last Saturday, the Rugby Football League disciplinary committee last night suspended Brian McDermon for four matches for punching, but the Bradford Bulls prop will be available for the final. Barrie McDermott is appealing against a three-match ban for a high tackle and Terry Newton, another Leeds player, was

Malgorzata Sobanska, from Poland. Not only does Macha-

the home front.

In The Times on Monday: a ... 16-page colour guide to the Flora London Marathon

do bring a smile to the marathon - nine times she blew kisses to the crowd as she celebrated her European championship win in Helsinki - but also an attacking style. Brave front-running in the 1993 world champiomship probably cost her the gold.

In Helsinki, Machado's vic-tory came after she struck for home from halfway but, in -London the next year, her front-running went unrewarded as Sobanska pulled away in the final mile. In Gothenburg. Machado covered the last six miles alone.

Last year. Machado failed to win either of her marathons, finishing seventh at the Atlanta Olympics and second in Tokyo. Like McColgan, Machado's recent form is sound.

☐ Kelly Holmes was a convincing winner of the 800 metres in an IAAF grand prix II meeting in Pretoria, on Wednesday evening. Her victory, in 2min 01.11sec, took her clear of Letitia Vriesde, from Surinam, who denied Holmes the silver medal in the ... 800 metres at the 1995 world championships. Another impressive British winner was Iwan Thomas, with 45.00sec in the 400 metres.

#### SNOOKER: FORMER WORLD CHAMPION TWO WINS AWAY FROM POCKETING HIS 29TH RANKING TITLE

## Davis guarantees return to semi-final stage

STEVE DAVIS, whose appetite for

strong despite 17 years at or near the apex of his profession, reached the semi-finals of a world ranking event for the first time in 26 months at the British Open in Plymouth yesterday. Davis moved to within two victories

of his 72nd title by beating Alan McManus 5-2 and, when he faces Dave Harold or Stephen Hendry tomorrow, he will be appearing at the penultimate stage of a ranking tournament for the first time since the 1995 International Open, when he was

Wembley in February won the Benson and Hedges Masters, an invitation tournament that does not count for ranking purposes, said.

McManus led 2-0 yesterday but runs of 40 and 51 helped Davis to draw level. Mcmanus was 33-0 ahead in the fifth frame when he misjudged a red and Davis pounced with a 61 clearance. The methodical Scot held a 54-43 advantage late in the sixth, but fell 4-2 adrift when Davis was presented with the opportunity to fashion another clearance by his opponent's ineffective

runner-up to John Higgins. "I am still safety shot on the last red. After two was all over in 61 minutes and was an Davis completing victory by winning the seventh frame, this time on the hlue

"I am sure it will be one of those days Alan wants to forget in a hurry. From my point of view, though, it's a very pleasing result indeed," Davis said. He has not added to a total of 28 titles in world-ranking events since winning the Regal Weish Open im 1995.

Mark Williams repeated the form that he showed when whitewashing Nick Pearce by sweeping aside Tony Drago, of Malta, 5-1 in a match that

really enjoying my snooker and I love such setbacks it was hardly surprising entertaining showcase for the Welshge," Davis, who at that McManus was unable to prevent man's unparalleled potting from distance.

On four occasions during the second frame. Williams surrendered position. Four times he recovered with pots bordering on the outrageous in constructing a break of 83. Further contributions of 38, 37, 69 and 89 helped finish off Drago, who had beaten Nigel Bond, the holder, by 5-1 to reach this stage.
Williams, who has moved up from

sixteenth to sixth in the provisional rankings this season, now plays either Peter Ebdon or Michael Judge.

#### FOR THE RECORD

## BASERAU NATIONAL LEAGUE: Montreal 4 St Louis 1, Cincinnati 5 Colorado 3: Florida 4 Chroago 3, Los Angeles 5 Philadelphia 1: Houston 4 Atlanta 3, San Diego 6 New York 5 (12)mp; AMERICAN LEAGUE: Belomore 4 Kenses Cay 2: Toronto 6 Chicago 1; Minnesota 7 Destrot 6, Boston 6 Anathem 5: Celevisino 6

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA) Cleve-land 96 Boston 87; Toronto 112 Philadel-phia 90; Charlotte 95 Atlanta 84; Minnesota 94 New Jersey 89; Detroit 99 San Antonio 92; Usen 118 Sacramento 87; Procest 109 Housion 96; Los Angeles Lakers 110 Derver 85 SUDWEISER LEAGUE: Manchester 78 Shaffield 60; Tharnes Valley 107 London 122

SWANSEA: CIS (Insurance) Wetah indoor palis championship: Quarter-finals: D Harding and J Greenslade (Cardiff) to N Rees and B Kingdon (Lianelli) 22-15, J Webley and N Lelyin (Clarelli) 16 Spiller and A Witners (Rhondda) 18-17 (effer extra end): B Daviès and P Carpenter (Merthyr

CRICKET Third one-day international match South Africa v Australia NEWLANDS (Australia won Loss): South Africa best Australia by 46 runs to lead seven mench senes 2-1

SOUTH APPRICA 

Total (B wists, 50 swers) .... A A Donald did not be

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-52, 2-53, 3-80, 4-101, 5-105, 6-176, 7-216, 8-222

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 41

(b) A harlot in Jericho with political nous, Two Israelites sent by Joshua to spy out the land took lodging with her. Impressed by the Israelites' victories east of the Jordan, she decided to ingratiate herself with them. She hid the two spies in stalks of flax on her roof and then let them down by a rope out of her window which was in the city's wall. In return, she marked her house with a scarlet thread. So she and her family were spared when the city was taken.

(c) The beautiful wife of the churlish Nabal, whose rudeness to (c) the beautiful wife of the churchen wabal, whose rudeness to ten young men sent to him by David brought upon himself an armed raid by David. Abigail did her duty by going out to meet David and diverting him from his murderous purpose. But God then killed Nabal, and so Abigail was free to marry David. The use of her name to denote a lady's maid was popularised by the state of t Abigail Hill (Mrs Masham), Queen Anne's favourite.

(a) Joseph Barsabas was one of the candidates to fill the place among the 12 apostles made vacant by the treason of Judas Iscariot. But the lot fell not on him but on Matthias. Judas Barsabas was sent with Silas by the Christians of Jerusalent to
Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. After a while, Barsabas returned to Jerusalem, but Silas remained in Antioch and became one of Paul's chief missionary companions.

(a) An excitable girl in the house of Mary, mother of John Mark. where a number of Christians were gathered to pray for Peter, where a number of Christians were gathered to pray for Peter, apprehended by Herod Agrippa I. When Peter, having escaped apprehended by Herod Agrippa I. When Peter, having escaped is from prison. knocked on the garden door, she recognised his Voice, but was so bowled over that she ran back with the news instead of letting Peter in. Silly moo!

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE ... 131.2 Ne3 (2 gxf3 gxh3 is decisive) 2 ... fxg2 3 Nxg2 gxh3 4 Nf4 h2 5 Ne2+ Ke4 6 Ng3+ Kf3 and Black wins easily.

## ALC:TRALIA

Total (9 with 44.5 great BOWLING, Policic 8-0-35-2; Bryson 9-0-34-2; Donald 7-5-1-25-1; Nalls 6-0-30-0; Opol-as 10-0-42-1, Change 4-0-29-0.

AT WAR THE WAY

Shariah Cup Sri Lanka v Zimbabwe SHARJAH (Sri Lanka won rosst Sri Lanka beat Zimbabwe by seven wickets ZIMBABWE

ZMBABWE

"IG W Flower b Zoysa

C B Wishart run out

A D R Campbet tow b Vales

D Vitigen at Naturalitharana

b Dramasana

A Flower b Maratharana

S V Cartiste o Teek-creame b Murathin

P A Strang b Vales

H Street, run out

E A Brandes not out

A Whittal C Naturalitharana b Vales

E Munambanadzo not out

Edras (b 3, 10 °, w 4, nb 3)

Total (9 wide)

50WLING, Vaas 10-2-25-3, Zoyse 10-0-46-1, Muralthauen 10-1-39-2, de Silva 10-0-34-1), Ohermesens 10-0-33-7 IFFE LAMKA

M Murahtharan did not bail. BOWLING: Brandes 7-0-33-1, Matambenedzo 7-0-38-0; Whotall 10-0-30-0, Streak 7-1-22-0; Strang 10-0-41-1; G W Flower 4-4-0-15-1

Umpires S Dunn (New Zeeland) and D Come (New Zealand) FOOTBALL

Wednesday's late results
WCRLD CUP: European qualifying instrictions Group one Croates 3 Sloveria 3 in Spirit Potent 0 testy 0 Group times; Azerbayan 1 Finland 2 (in Baku) Group times; Azerbayan 1 Finland 2 (in Baku) Group dour; Scotland 2 Austina 0. Casch Republic 1 futposland 2 (in Plaque) Group sevent Turkey 1 Hottand 0 fin Bursal, Group select Lahuania 0 Romente 1 Group ritine; Advanta 2 Germany 3 (in Granda, Spain South American core, Paregusy 2 Cotombia 1 tin Asuncion), Bolivia 2 Agentina 1 (in La Pazz, Lingusy 3 Venezuste 1 (in Microtevideo); Peru 1 Ecuador 1 fin Lima; NATIORNIOS LEAGUE Second Owlesion; MBMcd 1 York 1
VALDQUALL CONFISHENCE. Southport 2 Kettering 2

MINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Fine WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Finit division: Sheppey 0 Chathern 0. PCINTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Block burn 1 Solve 0: Sollion 1 Evenon 2: Marchester United 1 Olsham 1 First division: Asion Villa 2 Sunderland 2. Blackpool 0 Leacester 3: Covernity 4 West Bromwich 0 Second division: Burnley 0 Rotherham D. Carletle 4 Grimsby 2: Smearchury 1 Barnstey 3: Stodport 2 Manafield 0, Westham 2 Manchester City 4 INTERCHAL). I SACILIE Destriber children.

Mansfield Ö, Washam 2 Manchester Cdy & UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Bshop Aucklend 2 Bamber Bridge D: Garasborough 1 Buddin I; Wircland Ø Rundom D President's Cup: Semi-linel, second leg: Blyth Spartans 1 Raddille Ø (Blyth Spartans win 1-0 on agg) ICS LEAGUE: Previous division: Bromley 1 Dagenhern sind Redbridge Ø; Yesding 2 Boreham Wood 1 Second division: Challoni St Peter 2 Coffer Row and Romford 2. GILBERT LEAGUE OF WALES: Langua Cup: Semi-firmi: Second leg: Bany 2 Ton Penne 0 lagg 3-3: Berry win on www goal

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Bristot City () Charlion 1; Swensea () Ipswich 1; Wimbfedon 2 Bournemouth 1 U IBANCH I TWO BESIVERY NOTITHERN
LEAGUE: First division: Morpeth O South
Shields I, Whatham 2 Crool 4.
FA YOUTH CUP: Fifth round replay:
Wathold 1 Laten 1 (Lulen won 5-3 on

HELLENGC LEASUE: Premier division: Endsiring 2 Certanon 1; Lambourn Sports O Almondsbury 4. SCREWERC DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier

(Sydney to Cape Town, posterns at 14 DCGMT yearerday, with mile to Cape Town) 1, Group 4 1,060; 2, Concert 1,077.

3, Toshiba Were Warnot 1,087.4, Commercial Union 1,137: 5, Molorola 1,160; 6, Save The Children 1,188; 7, Global Teurmout 1,206; 8, 3Con 1, 226; 9, Tare & Tide 1,301; 10, Ocean Rover 1,305; 11, Nuclear Bectine 1,353; 12, Countablet in 1,481; 13, Pause To Remember 1,562; 14, Health Instance III 1,576. MORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEASUE Premier division: Shefield 1 Hudwall 1 ENGLISH SCHOOLS FESTIVALS: Mic of EMBLISH SCHOOLS FESTIVALS: ide of Wight East Commail of Hursingdom (t Bury 5 Detby 0; Leeds 3 Newham 1, Hull 1 Gospott 0; Bistop Auckland 2 Peterborrough 2 Carebridge 0; Wellingborrough 4 Lowestell 1. Doncaster 1 Valle of White Horse 3, Blechburn 0 Reading 3; Isle of Wight Protes 1 Return 1 and 1 Reading 3; Isle of Wight 2 Rotherham 3, Bhading 3; Isle of Wight 1 Palefield 7 Yeard 0, East Berls 1, Sheffletd 1 Palefield 7 Yeard 0, East Berls 1, Sheffletd 1 Palefield Rent 2 Stropshire 3 Hampshire 3, West Yorkshire 2, Dozall 1

Bredtord 7 Yeowl 0, East Berlig 1 Sheffeld 1 Palefield: Kent 2 Stropshire 3 Hampshire 3 West Yorkshive 2: Dorsin 1 Worcestershire 0. Berkshive 2: Dorsin 1 Worcestershire 0. Berkshive 0 Lincolshire 3 Outshire 3 Outshire 2 Otenshive 0. Moresyaria B 3 Surrey B 1, Somesset B 1 Espais B 2: Surrey 2 Connected 0. Espect 1 Menseysock 2; North Yorkshive 0 Somesset 1; West Middands 0 Northumbershird 1; Shropshive B 5 Hampshire B 3. North Tymesider Bradford 2 Consiste-Io-Sheet A B, Oldham 0 South Shreids 3; Wallsend 6 Chester-Io-Sheet B 1. Liston 2 Hardepool A 1; Vale of White Horse 2 Sundahand 1; Stoucester 3 Kellor 1; Prother Velley 6 Hardepool B 0; Manchester 2 Pessides 2; Leads 1 North Tyresod 4; North Tyresod 4; Northaland 1; Otherham 1 Newcastle B 2 Jersey Thumbout 1 Pyrnouth 0, West Connected 2 Readersham 2; Hackney 0 Gloucester 4, Redundig 0 Niembury 2; Reading 6 Barlung 1; Orphrighen 1 Jersey 1; Bighop Audstand 1 Childred 10 Interplatational, MATCHES; Hungary 1 Australia 3 for Budgapes 9, Setzerland 1 Lehits 0 (in Lucenne); France 1 Sweden 0 in Pasis, Bood 4 Chile of in Brasallan, SPANISH CUP: Semi-thref, second legs Okt 1 Childred 1 Child

ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL) Dallas 5 New York Islanders 4, Moniteral 4 Harford 1: Oltawa 2 Bullalo 0; Toronto 3 Flonda 1:

COURAGE CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Lenester 18 Wasps 12: Sale 11 Bath 5. Third division: Rosslyn Park 29 Reading

WELSH NATIONAL LEAGUE: First & vision: Extre Vale 16 Llanelli 18; Brid 18 Seensea 25 SAILING

BT GLOBAL CHALLENGE: Fourth log

#### FIXTURES

**FOOTBALL** Kuck-off 7,30 unless stated Nationwide League First division Franmere v Bradlatti (7 45)

FAI HARP LAGER CLIP: Semi-finals: Bohemians v Deny (at Delymount Park 7.45): Waterlord v Shelbourne (at Water-ford RSC, 7.45) FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier derision: Dundali v Siigo

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division. Sudbury Wanderers v Sudbury Town Res SCHOOLS MATCHES: English Schools

iste of Wight Festivel: Isle of Wight # Bishop Auckland; Cambridge v Leeds; Bishop Auckland; Cambridge v Leeds; Hurbrodon v Mancheslar, Lowestoll v Bury, Velle oi White Horse v Wirral, Wairefield v East Berkshire, Reading v Derby, Huven's v Welfingbrob, Bindgewaler v Newham, Hull v Gravesham, Gosport v Doncaster, Luton v Bliechburn, East Comwall v Badford, Sheffleid v Plymouth, Rotheram v Yeold, English Schools Under-19 Residual: Essex v Shropshire; Wiccostenshire v Morthumberland, North Yorkshire v Dorael: Commall v West Yorkshire v Borsels v Messoysadir, Soméraet v Lincothamet Kent v West Midlands: Berkshire v Cheshire; Durham v Surrey (al Pakelield).

RUGBY LEAGUE Stones Super League Leeds v Wigan (7 30)

ALLIANCE CHAMPIONSHIP: Sallord Hollax OTHER SPORT HOCKEY: Club match: Beeston v Loughborough Students (The Stadium, Million Keynes, 6 0) SNOCKER: British Open (all Phymouth

SPEEDWAY: NPI Pro

SPEEDWAY: NPI Promiership: Peter-berough v Wolverhampton (7.30) Speed-tery Star Cap: Bede Vue v Brackord (7.30) Promor Langue Know Or Cap: Arena Essas v Euster (8.0); Oxford v Lang Eston (7.45) Premier League Challenge: Edin-SQUASH: Breth Open (at Cardiff) TENNAS: Danie Cup: Buro-Africa zone: Group one: Second round: Great Britain v Zimbabwe jal Crystal Palacel.

SPEEDWAY

STAR CUP: Poole 53 King's Lynn 37. Premier League Cup: Hull 85 Berwick 39: Long Esson 45 Oxford 48. SQUASH

CARDIFF: Leakes British Open: Men: Second round: P Nicol (Scot) bt A Hit (Aus) 15-5, 10-15, 15-8, 15-12; B Mentri (Aus) bt M Celtrs, (Eng), 18-7, 9-15, 16-9, 15-11 Warner: Second mund: I Charmen (Eng) bt S Harres (Eng) 9-3, 9-3, 8-10, 5-9, 9-1, S Wight (Eng) bt R Macres (Eng) 7-9, 3-9, 9-4, 9-6, 8-4; S Pitz-Gerald (Aus) bt C

TENNIS

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, South Certains Women's burnement Second round: A Sanchez Vicano (So) bt S Ptiturels (Fit 6-2, 8-2; J Naviotina (Cc) of P Schnyder (Switz) 3-6, 7-5, 6-1; L Devenport (US) 50 th M de Search (SN 8-2, 6-0; A Huber (Ger) bt L Reymond (US) 6-0, 6-0; 1 Meptil (Cro) bt R Dragomer (Rom) 3-6, 6-4, 6-1, 8 Paulus (Austria) bt V Ruemo-Pascual (Sp) 6-4, 6-1; A Coelcer (SA) bt P Suarez (Arg) 4-6, 6-2, 4-0 ret; B Schratz-McCarthy (Holf) bt G Leon Geroa (Sp) 6-4, 6-4 th Probst (Ger) w/a M Malerve (Bul) stc; B Schrat (Austra) bt A Fusal (F) 6-1, 6-0 -1 Capried (US) bt A Sugnyama (Japan) 6-1, 6-0 Third round; M Seles (US) bt A Gersi (Cz) 6-2, 7-6 HILTON HEAD ISLAND, South Carolina



## Opening my eyes to tunnel vision of the true England supporter



Kicking and Screaming

ust when you think you know something, it turns out that you know nothing at all. After the England v Italy match in February, 1 made a policy decision. "England fans are animals!" I reported back to my unsurprised superiors. "It was ... it was ghastly!" Last Saturday, therefore, for England v Mexico at Wembley, I crept shamefaced past the bear-pit turnstiles towards the safety of the press box. "Class Traitors and Broken Reeds This Way" flashed in red letters above the door as I pushed it open, but in the interests of dignity I pretended not to notice.

Well, how was I to know that the fans on this occasion would be mostly under-tens? Or that only 48,000 people would turn up, some of them in holiday-mood sombreros? "I don't know why I came here tonight," Stealers Wheel, sang pointedly, on the PA system. got a feeling something ain't right." Ho hum. I tapped my pencil on my fancy, privileged desk-top and tried not to look as stupid as I felt. I had assumed the only surreal thing about this match would be the sight of Glenn Hoddle sorting through a bulging file marked "Sick Notes". Yet, here before me were thougaivsw sinsing priorig to shoes big sponge hands about, as if it

What I still don't know is: what makes an England fan? Were these kiddles on Saturday England yobs in embryo? The natural history of the besotted club supporter is easily understood these days because you can go to see the film Fever Pitch and watch the mop-headed Colin Firth hold his breath for 18 years, finally exhaling in 1989 when Arsenal win the championship. You Team; Nottingham Forest was (sniff) hugging?

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

IN KUALA LIMPUE

HANS MULDER spent most of the

rest day at the ICC Trophy yesterday

trying to shore up Holland's crum-

bling hopes of playing in the 1999

World Cup. Their team manager

appealed to the ICC to allow a reserve

day for the final round of group matches and for the venue for Hol-

land's game with Bangladesh to be

changed to avoid possible crowd trouble from local Bengalis should

Both requests were rejected and a

subsequent appeal to the other seven

their team lose.



can even temporarily love Arsenal (a bit) on his behalf. Grasping the England phenomenon, however, turns out to be a lot more difficult. because the team doesn't exist in the same way, doesn't have a clubcall hotline or a family membership, and (let's not forget) has traditionally at-

All this has taken me a long time to realise, because during Euro 96 I had no idea of club football and in fact considered ते के mere detail. (Nottingham Recest) might appear beside Stuart Pearce's name in the programme, but this information was clearly included only for the benefit of know-alls. In my mind, the priorities were simple. England was Pearce's

> teams left in the tournament also failed, although it was more sympa-

thetically received. Mulder is worried

that, if Holland's third quarter-final

group match against Bangladesh is

rained off with no result, his team will

be flying home without completing a

years to get here and we are now in a

crazy situation of being knocked out if

it rains again without playing a proper quarter-final game," he said.

Cup qualifying tournament here in March and April? Look in all the guide

books and see when it rains in

"What idiot decided to play a World

"We have worked hard for three

match in the last eight

his day-job. Pairing Sher-ingham with Shearer in attack held no magic: I merely feared that, with such similar names. they'd be permanently mixed up by the commentators.

But last Saturday, when Ian Wright and Robbie Fowier combined to score the second goal against Mexico, I suddensaw it from quite the other way about. Wright and Fowler in the same shirts? What sporting miracle was this? The sight of these boys celebrating together was so beautiful I wiped a war. While the Shel-field Wednesday band played heroically in the stands, players from Arsenal and Liverpool were conspiring together in victory - and good grief. were those lovely lads actually

CRICKET: WEATHER AND POOR ORGANISATION BLAMED FOR TURNING ICC TROPHY INTO LOTTERY

Holland fear damp end to World Cup hopes

score of 170.

full of phoney enemies and contingent alliances, Liverpool and Arsenal fans are surely trained to hate each other, so how do they cope with a scene like this? Moreover, how are Liverpool fans expected to respond to the climactic 1989 Liverpool v Arsenal match in Fever Pitch, shown entirely from Arsenal's point of view? Liverpool's problems in 1989 (which included Hillsborough) are, for the purposes of Arsenal's glorious outcome, completely, immaterial. In terms of this story, they must

What a mad world sport is,

lose, so that others may win. Well, callous partisanship is clearly what it's all about, which is why fans are so frightening. As a supporter,

Malaysia - March and April!" Holland only bowled 23 overs against

Ireland on Tuesday and lost on comparative run-rate, then saw the

rain fall again on Wednesday, forcing an abandonment when they were 5.2 overs into their reply to Hong Kong's

Mulder wants to know why the ICC

did not allow two days for the last eight

group matches, as will be the case for

round so much because there are only

eight or nine serious teams here, the

rest are Mickey Mouse sides on a glorified holiday." Mulder said.

"It doesn't matter about the first

the semi-finals and finals.

conosing side can suffer injury and ignominy without you caring a bit.

On Saturday, I cared so little about the Mexico team that I didn't even bother to read their names in the programme. As for their charmmanager, Bora Milutinovic. I just thought he had an awful coat and a ridiculous haircut. At this rate I'll end up booing other people's national

"Mexico's No8 is very good," a colleague in the press box told me, helpfully. "Is he?" I answered vaguely, and went back to peering through binoculars at Paul Ince, which was

Incidentally, I noticed with grim satisfaction that the programme gave David Batty's club wrongly as Blackburn Rovers. Terrifyingly, I was tempted to point out this error to the chap beside me ("I say! A bit behind the times, this!"), to show off my sporty-girl cre-dentials. Something held me back, however, which proves that there is a God.

suppose the club v country thing will fall into place at some stage perhaps when I finally appreciate that the players are individuals. Looked at from this novel angle, players acceptably move from club to club (and from one set of fans to another) yet remain England players - which locates their real loyalty in the nat-ional side, after all. But how is this reconciled with the sicknotes in Hoddle's file? "Dear England Coach, Matt cannot come out to play on Saturday because his foot is a bit dicky and, besides, he is needed at

On a lighter note, is anyone else entertained, as I am, by the ambiguous phrase "doubtful for England", which ac-companies the phenomenon of the wincing, limping national player in the weeks before a match? It somehow always brings to my mind a row of players recruited to have doubts or at least to act doubtfully, shaking heads, sucking teeth, wagging fin-

Adams and Beckham now doubtful for England" run the headlines, and Linese players swiftly arrange their features to appear plagued by misgiving. "How are you feel-ing, David?" "Ooh, I feel doubtful for England," he replies, dutifully. "Very doubt-

He is also astonished that the ICC

has scheduled its tournament dinner

for the eve of such an important game.

"It is in the rules for the ICC Trophy

that each team must attend the

tournament dinner, so my players are

going to be returning to the hotel after

midnight and have to be up at six

o'clock to travel to the ground," he

"It's crazy organisation. There are

people here more interested in meeting

The King than playing cricket."
REMAINING FOTURES: Today: Group E: Kenye v
Scotland: Denvisst v Caneda. Group F: Bangladesh v
Holland, Instead v Hong Kong. April 0: Semi-finet
wirners group F v number-up group F. April 0: Semifinet wirners group F v number-up group E. April 10:
fittel-place play-off April 12: final.

complained.

## A round we go once more

Peter Alliss may have put on a few pounds since he last presented his golfing entertainment but the formula is still in good shape. Essentially it is a replacing the studio sofa and guests who tend not to be drawn from the usual run of chat show fodder. Refreshingly, none of those who appear tonight is there to promote a new book or film. They include Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, who may be a They include Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, who may be a modest golfer but hardly deserves Alliss's somewhat paromising dismissal of her technique. "What a strange game you women play!" was no doubt intended as a jocular aside, but you can sense the feminist outrage. Alliss is, however, impeccably correct with the Duke of York, a relative newcomer to the game but fast reducing his benefician.

A five-star hotel in Manchester at the end of the First World War is the setting for television's latest excursion into period drama. This is a well-tried genre and The Grand shows every sign of sustaining its popularity. Those who remember Upstairs Downstairs (currently being repeated on satellite) will find enjoyable echoes in the master-and-servant relationship between the management and the staff. But at the heart of the story is the hotel's mercarious financial state and the struggle of the precarious financial state and the struggle of the husband and wife owners (Michael Siberry and Julia St John) to keep it afloat. Mark McGann plays the nasty brother who has the money to save the hotel but only on his own outrageous terms. Russell T. Davies's script combines plenty of incident with a feel for the social tensions in a Britain still coming to terms with the horrors of the war.

#### Silent Witness: Friends Like These BBC1, 10.00pm

The final two-parter of the current series opens with the discovery of an old woman, battered to death on a piece of waste ground. The corpse is soon on the mortuary slab and under the searching eye of Amanda Burton's Dr Ryan. The camera, thankfully, is more discreet. Peter Lloyd's script is



Amanda Burton stars (BBC1, 10pm)

a standard whodunnit, with a suspect (an alcoholic loner with a record of violence) so obvious that you are immediately convinced that he cannot possibly be the murderer. Although Dr Ryan has moved in pe the murderer. Although Dr syan has moved in with Denective Superintendent Ross (Mick Ford), it continues to be the sort of love affair where the couple cannot even shape up for a cuddle before the telephone rings. Television policemen are never allowed to be off duty for long. In that case, you may wonder, why bother to show their private life at all?

#### Grand National Tales BBC2, 9.30pm

Tomorrow's 190th Grand National is the cue to rummage in the archives and recall great moments in the company of jockeys, trainers and Desmond Lynam, though not that chap in the bowier hat who failed to start the 1993 race. Even to those who barely follow racing many of the stories will be familiar, though this is no reason for not telling them again. But the film is more than a rehash of Dick Francis and the Devon Loch mystery, Bob Champion coming back triumphantly from cancer and the triple triumph of Red Rum. We meet the man (you may have noticed him) who manages to walk out each year with the jockeys and a solicitor who can solemnly recite where every horse fell since the 1960s. And, not least, there is the chance to relish again David Coleman's wonderful Aintree

#### RADIO CHOICE

Paths of Inspiration

Radio 2, 7.00pm During the past few weeks, Trinidad-born Trevor McDonald has been interviewing black men and women whose lives, he says, have influenced millions. Millions of blacks? Millions of blacks and whites? Both, I think, and in equal measure. Some of his subjects were proselytisers in the cause of equality between races. Some were fuelled by passion, others not. In this series, McDonald has shown that, either because of his own experience or simply because he is an excellent reporter anyway, he is a thoroughly dependable inquirer into black consciousness. Today he talks to Diana Ross who. in the 1960s, made up a third of the Supremes. She suggests, more than actually declares, the extent of her identification with her fellow blacks.

#### RADIO 1

7.00mm Marir Redottle 9.00 Dave Pearce 12.00 Jo Whiley 2.00pm Nicky Campbell 4.00 Kevin Greening 6.15 Newsbeat 6.30 Roger Sanchez — Essential Selection 10.00 One in the Jurgle 12.00 Radio 1 Rap Show with Tim Washwood 3.00mm Charles Jordan

#### RADIO 2

8.00ez Serah Kennedy 8.05 Wake Up to Wogen 10.00 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30 Debble Thrower 3.00 Ed Sevent 8.06 John Duhn 7.00 Paths of Inspiration. See Choice (65) 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night. From the Comp. Exchange, King's Lynn 8.30 Listen to the Band 10.00 Sheridage, Modey 12.05e/m Jon. Bridge

#### RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00mm Morning Reports 6.00 The Brusidam Programme 5.00 The Magazine 12.00 Midday with Mair 2.00pm Ruscoe on Five Sportstalk 8.30 Friday Sport: With John Murray, Rugby League: Super League, Leads v Wigan Ternis: Britain's Davis Cup realch against Zimbabwe 10.00 Brisin Hayee's Section Night 12.00 After Hours 2.00em Up All Night

#### TALK RADIO

5.00mm Chris Ashtey and Sandy Warr 7.00 Paul Rose 9.00 Soot Chistolin 12.00 Loreine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Divetime, with Peter Declay 7.00 Moz Dee's Sportscone 10.00 Moz Alem 1.00mm kin Coffris

The London Sinfonietta long ago passed the stage where it had to prove it was among the most innovative ensembles in the land. Nonetheless, from time to time, it still exercises musical muscles we didn't suspect it possessed. This concert demonstrates the fact. Recorded as part of the State of the Nation weekend in February, at the South Bank in London, it is a fully amplified affair, complete with electric guitars, saxophones, and full drum-klt. If you insist that I Identify a highlight. then I will plump for Django Bates's new work, getting its broadcast premiere. It is Some More Upset, and Bates's Human Chain instrumentalists join his keyboard and the Sinfonietta in

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#### WORLD SERVICE

All times in 88T. News on the hour. 5,30em Europe Today 6,30 Europe Today 7,15 World Today 7,30 Meridian Books 8,18 On the Shell 8,30 Composer of the Month 9,10 Pause for Thought 9,15 Turning A Tuns 9,30 Tommy Vancs 10,05 Business 10,15 Live From the Archive 10,30 BBC English 10,46 Sport 11,30 Discovery 12,30 Neighbours 12,45 F.O.O.C 1,05 Business 1,15 Britain Today 1,30 Record News 1,45 Sport 3,05 Outlook 9,30 Multitrack X-Press 4,05 Sport 4,15 Turning A Tune 4,30 John Peel 8,00 Europe Today 6,30 Business 5,45 Britain Today 9,15 World Today 6,30 Record News 8,45 Sport 7,30 Reports from the Silk Road 8,00 Outlook 8,25 Pause for Thought 8,30 John Peel 10,05 Business 10,15 Britain Today 11,30 Meridian Books 10,30 World Today 11,30 Meridian Books 10,30 World Today 11,30 Turning a Tune 1,45 Britain Today 2,430 The Worlds 1,20 Focas on Falin 4,05 Business 4,15 Sport 4,30 Europe Today 4,30 On the Shell

#### CLASSIC FM

Locum Ment: Griffithm 7.00 Mos Reso, 10.00 Solid Gold Classics 10.00 Henry Kelly 1,00pm Concerto. Carl Czerny (Plano Concerto in A minor, Op 214) 3.00 Nick Belley 7,00 Classic Newenight 7.30 Sonata. Mozart (Flute Sonata in B figural) 8.00 Evening Concert. Berlicz (Herold in Italy); no 10 February (Conciento de Ararjuez); Baelhoven (Symphony No 4 in B fish major, Op 60) 10,00 Michael Mappin 2.00em Concerto (r)

#### VIRGIN RADIO

6.00mm Rues 'n' Jono's Breakfast Experience 19.00 Grahem Dene 1.00pm Jeremy Clark 4.00 Nicky Horne 7.00 Peul Coyle (FM) / Robin Benks (AM) 10.00 Alan Freeman 12.00 Merk Formet 2.00mm Howard Pearce

6.00am On Air, with Andrew MacGregor, Includes Prokofley (Overture on Hebrew Themas, Moscow Contemporary Music Ensemble); Schubert (Symphony No 6 in C.); Shostakovich (Prelude and Fugue, Op 87 No 4); (Debussy (La Mer); Mendelssohn (Overture: The Hebrides, Fingal's Cave); Bach (St John Passion); Bartok (Plano Concasto No 2)

Cave); Bach (St John Passion); Bartok (Pieno Concerto No 2)

9.00 Moming Collection, with Penny Gore. Rameau (Las Fleura); Haydin (Piano Trio Century); Loewe (De Lotosburne); Milhaud (Symphony No 1)

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Stephanie Hughes. Includes Saint-Saens (Cello Concerto No 1 in A minor); Sibelius (Two Partsongs, Op 65); Larsson (Pastoral Suite, Op 19) Telemann (Die Nacht, Die Tageszeiten); Haydin (Symphony No 101 in DE, Clock); Strauss (Der Hosenkavalier)

12.00 Composer of the Weet: Amy Beach, Chris Wines Iooks at the final years of the Composer's life. Includes Beach (Surrimer in New Hampshire; Five Improvisations; Cabildo, excerpt; Pastorate)

1.00pm News; Bristol Lunchtime Concert. The first

1.00pm News; Bristol Lunchlime Concert. The six of a new series. A concert given last month in St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, by Isin Bostridge, tenor, and Julius Drake, Jeano, Culture, Telle Nuill; Britten (Winter Words; French Folk.)

Songs)
2.00 Work, Reats and Play. Musicians reveal what it is like to be a member of an orchestra, Includes

is like to be a member of an orchestra, includes the BBC Symphony Orchestra, under Andrew Davis. Elgar (Pomp and Circumstance March No 3 in C minos) if Music Restored Andrew Manze introduces the second of two programmes in which the New London Consort, with Catherine Bott, soprano, Christopher Robson, countertenor, and Michael

George, bass-bartone, under Philip Pickett, perform chamber certatas by Telemann (f) 3.00 Mining the Archive. Leo Black looks at the collection of BBC recordings of the music of Johannes Brahms. Includes performances by Thomas Herrisley, Robert Titze, Pamela Bowden, Jennifer Eddy, Anne Collins, Roger Vignoles, Ernest Lush and James Lockhart.

3.00 Music Machine. Sarah Walter returns to Warwick Castle in sarach of domestic music-making from

Castle in search of domestic music-making from

Castle in search of domestic music-making from the Victorian era

5,18 in Turne, with Andrew Green, includes Haydin (The Haydin are Telling, The Creation); Kreister (Tambourin Chinois); Beethoven (Variations on Rule Britannia); Brahms (Variations on a Theme of Haydin, St Antoni Chorale)

7.30 Royal Scottlish National Opera, under Paul Daniel, With John Cushing, clannet. Live from Usher Hall, Edinburgh, Featuring the world premiere of James MacMillan's clarinet concento, Arrian, Schubert (Overture: Flerrabras) 8,25 Book of the Month. Noam Chornely — a Life in Dissent, by Robert F. Barsky (1/12) 8,45 Concert Part 2. Nielsen (Symphony No 5)

9.30 The Sound of Masters. In the last programms of the series, Sir Peter Hall discusses the masks used in his own productions

9.45 Taiding the Wind Out of Opera. Arias from Mozart arranged for wind instruments by Rainer Schottstädt and Steve Martland

10.00 Hear and Now, See Choice

10.00 Hear and Now. See Choice
12.15am Composers of the Week: Mozart (r)
1.00 Through the Night: Includes 2.40 Vividi (Judine Triumphans); Lutoslaveki (Pagenni Variations)
3.40 Schubert and Chopin songs 4.30
Mendelssohn (Symphony No 3)

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News Briefing
6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30
Today, includes Thought for the Day 8.40 Racing
Pigs and Glant Marrows by Harry Pearson
2.08 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs, with agony aunt
Virginia Ironsida (r)
9.45 The Road to Dollid, with David Loyn (2/2)
10.00 News; Out of the Black Beg: Women's
Troubles, Clare Jankins looks back at the
problems of child bearing in pre-NHS Britain,
including what to do with unwarded pregnancies
and the process of childbrith Isself (2/4)
10.30 Women's Hour, with Sylvis Hom
11.30 The Natural History Programme. Presented by
Joanna Pinnock
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer news and
current effairs with Mark Whittaker
12.25pm Food Programme. Simon Parkes explores
some of London's best, and worst, restaurants to
see if it really is the gastronomic capital of the
world 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 Classec Serial: The Valley of Fear, by Sir Arthur
Conan Doyle, With Civic Mentson as Holmes and
Michael Williams as Watson (r)
3.00 News: The Aftersoon Shift, with Leurie Tisylor
and his guests
4.00 News: The Kaleidonoope. Tim Marlow assesses

and his guests
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Tim Marlow assesses
a new series of art books and sees an exhibition
of three-dimensional ert from the 1980s and 1990s
at the Hayward Gallery in London
4.45 Short Story: Unknown Lives, by Ron Butlin.
Read by Liam Brennan

5.00 PM, with Charlie Lee-Potter and Chris Lowe 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
5.00 Going Places. David Stafford reveals more ideas for things to do this weekend
7.00 Place of the Week. Chris Serie presents his selection of extracts from BBC radio and television
8.05 Any Calestions? Jonathan Dimbleby chairs the topical debate from Knighton, Powys. With Margaret Beckett, Shadow Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Stephen Dorrell, Secretary of State for Health; Archy Kirkwood, Liberal Democrat Chief Whip, and Dalydd Wigley, leader of Plaid Cymru

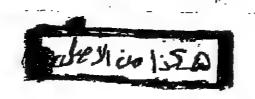
of Plaid Cymru 8.50 Lumiere's Children. An exploration of the way an

8.59 Lumiere's Children. An exploration of the way an and technology have intertwined over the past cantury of itm. Christopher Cook looks at the transition from silent films to the talkies (r)
9.15 Latter from America. Another slice of life Statesicle from Aistair Cooke
9.30 Kateldoscope Feature. Nigel Andrew in conversation with Tim Burton, the director of Mars Attacks. Ed Wood and Edward Scassortianois (r)
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Sorcerer's Apprentice, by Frank O'Connor. The second of two parts read by Barbara Brennan

by Frank O'Corinor. The second of two parts res by Barbara Brennan 11.00 Week Ending. The cornedy sketch show with Sally Grace and the tearn 11.25 Tea Junction, with Patrick Hanner and guests 11.45 Twillight, with Joanna Pinnock (4/5) (r) 12.00 News 12.30 The Late Book: The Wasp Factory, by Jain Banks. Read by Joseph McFadden (6/10) 12.46 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FRECHENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1, FM 97.6-99,8. RADIO 2, FM 88.0-90.2, RADIO 3, FM 90.2-92.4, RADIO 4; FM 92.4-94.5; LW 198; MW 720, RADIO 5 LIVE, MW 683, 909, WORLD SERVICE, MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM, FM 100-102, VIRGIN RADIO, FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215, TALK RADIO, MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Deer, Ian Hughes, Rosenbary Smith, Susan Thomson, James





# Nagging suspicion that a star has been born

scheduling weapons. So, for the millions of you who presumably missed Nancy Lam, let me fill you in. Nancy Lam is a cook and after last night's debut a television cook. Television cooks mean only one thing: gimmicks.

The problem is finding a new one. She's plumpish, but nothing to rival the Two Fat Ladies. She's oriental, which presumably is why BBC2 is defensively running repeats of Ken Hom directly against her. She berates her silent husband and sous-chef, in a manner that Fanny Cradock would undoubtedly approve of: and she's rude to the customers in her restaurant, although surely not even Keith Floyd can have mopped down a diner's glistening brow with the punter's own rie.

So far, so precedented What does that leave? Born in Singapore goodbye. And all the chopping.

ay five of Channel 5, a to an Indonesian mother and a fitting moment to unveil Chinese father. Lam has an accent one of its more credible that now and again renders her totally incomprehensible (was "yam-yam" an ingredient or a culinary assessment?). But then so, too, did that French-Canadian chef, who occasionally popped up in the afternoon to go four courses with the English language. Then there's her laugh, which is loud and memorable . . . just like Rusty Lee's on TV-am. All of which leaves. I think, only her spectacles. which are big, blue and magically never steam up. Anybody remember any other myopic television

chefs? With built-in de-misters? Lam explained last night that there was nothing wrong with nagging her spouse "He's my hus-band. I'm allowed to give him a hard time - and he's allowed to give me a hard time too." But not, apparently, on her show. All the much put-upon Ben did was say

The cooking — which one hopes is will the important bit - appeared relatively straightforward and made encouraging use of packets and jars, the sort of thing that Lam repeatedly assured us could be found in "any oriental supermarket". But unless you feel up to mimicking her accent at the counter, it might be a help if one or two of the more exotic ingredients were captioned. As indeed it might be if some of her pearls of oriental wisdom were, too. It's OK to dream when grinding peanuts, but not when cutting carrots. Makes some sort of sense, I suppose.

hich is more than can be said for Mad Ahour Machine can't quite decide whether it was bad or simply unexpected. Malcolm Hemley, you see, sounded like a man after my own heart his two passions in life are trees and Dennis lawnmowers. Passion

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

might be a bit strong in my case, but I've been known to hug a hazel or two in my time and ever since a formative experience with a disembodied lawnmower engine at a country show (sans roller, sans blades, it still chugged bravely away) I've been able to see a certain beauty in grass-cutting too. But while I take such pleasures vicariously, Hemley -- his Dorset home surrounded by acres of lawned and wood garden - lives them. Cue sunny days, gleaming machines and Peter Gabriel sing-ing I'm just a lawnmower, you tell me by the way I walk"?

Not a bit. Cue a very mournful and not particularly well shot film, that included the memorable question "Do you ever think about life after your mother dies? Hemley did, but not much ("I'd have to do my own washing 7. He had more important things on his mind: "If I can get most of my raking done today. I will be very pleased."

What Taghi Amirani's film apeared to be suffering from was a had case of season-lag. Here we were, basking in the sunniest Easter for years and there were Amirani and Hemley lost in the mist and murk of autumn. Somewhere in all that mist and murk they also managed to lose most of the mowers. Hemley apparently has 32 of them, but we saw just two: one that worked splendidly

and one - his first machine - that didn't work at all. The rest were hidden away under sacking in a very dark Nissen hut. Not ideal in a film about lawnmowers.

mirani's film, however, was A no longer about mowers. He had been distracted by the obvious pathos potential in a middle-aged man who devotedly nursed his father until his death three years ago and who now lives with his elderly but doting mother. Hemley, like any enthusiast whose interest has become an obsession, was a soft target and surely deserved more than to be cast as a grass-cutting version of J.R. Hartley, as he tried to track down the vital part - an ML Magneto. type CMAK - that would get that first Dennis (a birthday gift from his father) back on the lawns, This being real life, and not an advertisement for Yellow Pages. there was no happy ending.

No happy ending either for Original Sin (ITV), but certainly a devilishly complicated one. In the best traditions of the genre, the baddie turned out to be the least likely of the original suspects in the inaptly named Innocent House and the motive turned out to be firmly anchored in the past. As we had spent two-and-a-half episodes floundering around in the present. this was a little frustrating - and not just for Commander Dalgliesh.

But while we were left wondering how the guilty party could die in seconds from self-inflicted burns (it always takes hours in ER or Casualty) and various other eccentricities of plot (why had Esme Carling so conveniently told her young neighbour everything?) there is no doubt that Thursday nights will be all the poorer for having ITV's latest whodunnit so stylishly resolved. Still, dare say there'll be another one along soon.

#### BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (44907) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (1) (49365) 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (T) (8255839) 9.20 Style Challenge (3776704) 9.45 Kilroy (2304452)

10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (91655) 11.00 News (T) and weather (4927487) 11.05 The Really Useful Show (9397278) 11.35 Change That (6711452) 12.00 News (T) Regional News and weather

(4521655) 12.05pm Call My Bluff (5173384) **12.35 Good Living (9904655)** 1.00 News (T) and weather (6122655) 1.35 Regional News (50622753) 1.45 The Weather Show (39032346) 1.50 Neighbours (T) (22969094)

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2.15 Columbo: A Matter of Honour With Peter Falk as the detective on holiday in a Mexican resort, whose peace is disrupted by a murder involving the world of bullfighting (4810704)

3.30 Mouse and Mole (9914346) 3.36
Playdays (6218636) 3.85 Bodger and
Badger (6379742) 4.10 Ace Ventura: Pet
Detective (8309655) 4.35 Clarissa
Explains It All (7631655) 5.00 Newsround
(1) (5382704) 5.10 Blue Peter (1)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (225181) 6,00 News (T) and weather (87) 6.30 Regional News (639)

7.00 Big Break Snooker stars Stave Davis, David Roe and Alein Robidoux accept Jim Davidson's challenge (T) (2758)

7.30 Top of the Pops presented by Mark Radcliff and Marc Riley (T) (723) 8.00 Porridge Fletch lands himself in the prison hospital, sharing a ward with old Blanco. Classic comedy, with Ronnie Barker and David Jason (r) (1) (5278)

8.30 A Question of Sport Joining David Coleman and team captains Ally McColst and John Parrott this week are national hunt lockey Richard Dunwoody, world speedway champion Billy Hamili, cricketer Robert Croft and Rangers and Scottlah international Stuart McCall (T)

9.00 News (T) and weather (8669)

10.00 Stient Witness Sam and Peter's unlikely budding romance is put on hold when a brutal and apparently random murder demands both their attention. Amanda Burton and Mick Ford star (428638)

10.50 High Plains Orifter (1973) starring and directed by Clint Eastwood. A mysterious atranger rides into Lago, a small frontier provoked into a fight where he kills three their sheriff as they live in tear of an armed geng (T) (59555704)

12.30 The George Raft Story (1961, b/w) Biography of the Hollywood tough guy, charting his beginnings as a hooler with gangland connections to his heyday as one of the silver screen's most leared tough guys, Starring Rey Danton, Joseph M. Newman directs (442785)

2.15am Weather (3424853)

VideoPkus+ and the Video PlusCodes The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode "numbers, which asting are video Pruscode - numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+ - handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (""), Pluscode (") and Video Programmer are trademarka of Gernstar Development Ltd.

6.00am Managing Public Services: All Change? (2551365) 6.25 The Dynamics of Teams (2563100) 6.50 Bulls, Bears and Chana Shops (1372177) 7.15 See Hear Breaklast News (8355278) 7.30 Secret Life of Toys (2630013) 7.45 The Raccoons (4434988) 8.10 Wacky Races (3331810) **8.30** Young People's Specials Andrew (79433) **9.00** Activ-8 (3787810) 9.25 Sweet Valley High (3773617) 9.50 Funnybones (6562365) 10.00

BBC2

Telletubbes (49407) 10.30 Beber (99297) 11.00 The Young Indiane Jones Chronicles (23655) 12,30pm Working Lunch (52461) 1.00 Secret Life of Toys (20649182) 1.15 A-Z of Food (22770452) 1.25 Alias Smith and Jones

introduces the second day of the 1997 Grand National Meeting, Including the 2,35; 3,10 3.45 and 4.20 races (85948278) 4.45 A-Z of Food (9222029) 4.55 Esther With school inspector Gervase Phinn (9015433) 5.30 Today's

6.25 Star Trek Mercenary opportunist Harry Mudd programmes an android to take control of the Enterprise (r) (T) (245742) 7.10 Pole to Pole Michael Palin's journey through southern Africa is beset by minor

the Day (988) 6.00 The Simpsons

mishaps — but he has shocking news on his errival in Johannesburg (r) (T) (953128) Followed by Video Nation Election Shorts 8.00 A Golfer's Travels with Peter Allies A six-part series

In which Allas travels the world in search of diverse golfing locations (6520)

8.30 Gardeners' World Alan Titchmersh laws the groundwork for his butterfly garden at Barleywood, Stephen Lacey goes to Holland to explore the Dutch passion for perennials and floy Lancaster checks out the arrezing wealth of garden plants in South Africa (T) (5655)

9.00 Reb C Neebitt Trouble looms in the Nesbitt household as flab realis not in love with Mary (r) (T) (4907)



Desmond Lymam at Aintree (9.30pm)

9.30 Grand National Tales On the eva of 150th Grand National, Desmond Lynam looks at the horses and jockeys who have made their names in the world-lamous race (T) (10348). Video

10,30 Newsnight presented by Jeremy Paxman (T) (50758)

11.30 Spece: Above and Beyond An underground raid goes badly wrong — and it's only Damphousse's amazing intuition which keeps the soldiers alive 12.15am This Life (r) (T) (6183834)

1.00 Later Presents the Beautiful South (r) 2.10-2.15 Weather (17259)

#### HTV

6.00em GMTV (6845100) 9.25 Chain Letters (T) (2035636) 9.55 London Today (T)

10.00 The Time, the Place (21471) 10.30 This Morning (1) (61266471) 12.20pm Regional News (1) (9990452) 12.30 News (T) and weather (9990452)

12.56 Our House (9908471) 1.25 Home and Away (T) (64377346) 1.50 Murder, She Wrote (2535181) 2.50 Garden Calendar (5173742)

3.20 News (T) (7825742) 3.25 Regional News (T) (7824013)

3.30 Rosie and Jim (6361723) 3.40 Slim Pig (9929278) 3.50 Cartoon Time (9918162) 4.00 Zzzapi (5400636) 4.15 Jumanji (T) (8393094) 4.40 Crazy Cottage (8446094)

5.10 A Country Practice (1757723) 5.40 News (1) and weather (571487) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (459094) 6.25 HTV Weather (798520)

6.30 HTV News (T) (907)

7.00 Emmerdale The Dingles venture into the transport business, Frank confronts Chris over ins betrayal (T) (4926)

7.30 Coronation Street Derek finds himself driven to distraction and Fiona is surprised when Steve turns up on her doorstep unannounced (f) (891) 8.00 The Bill Jarvis and Rawton investigate a rain raid and the shop owner discovers

more than just money (T) (7966) 3.30 You've Been Framed! (r) (2181)



Julia St John, Michael Siberry (9,00)

9.00 CHOICE The Grand New period drama series set in a luxury hotel after the Second World War. With Tim Heaty, Susan Hampshire and Mark McGann (T) (5907) 10,00 News (T) and weather (78704)

10.30 HTV News (T) and weather (537159) 10.40 Hotel (840094)

11,15 At the Albert (316636)

12.15 Box Office America Jazz planist and godfather of British modern jazz, Stan Tracey and his quartet at the "Albert" music pub in Bristol (3612389) 12.40 Murder by Niight (1989) with Robert Urich, Kay Lenz and Michael Ironside. The only witness to a victous murder is knocked unconscious at the scene,

suffering from amnesia the police are keen for him to remember the gristy details Directed by Paul Lynch (701940) Claim Club Nation (5345230)

3.20 Funky Bunker (8779327) 4.20 Collins and Maconies Movie Club (r) (30388414) 4.50 Recollections (21626308)

5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (28306)

5.30 News (70853)

#### 1.50 Savannah (2535181)

As HTV West except: 12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (9908471)

CENTRAL

2.50-3.20 Our House (5173742)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (1757723) 8.25-7.00 Central News (593891)

10.40 Central Weekend Live (4488988) 12.10am Weekly World News (3613018)

12.35 Funity Bunker (7129308) 1,36 Baywatch (4060969) 2.35 Cyber Cafe (3097747)

3.00 Collins and Maconie's Movie Club 3.25 Dating the Enemy (4892124)

#### WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except: 12.55 Home and Away (9908471)

1.25 Emmordate (70973365) 1.55 Blue Hectors (1543907) 2.45-3.20 Gardeners' Diary (4451094) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1757723)

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (12636) 10.40 Film: The Gaunder (88971162)

#### MERIDIAN AA HTV West except:

12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (9908471) 1.55 Sennmunch (2543100)

2.50 Go Wild in the Country: The Making of Wind in the Willows (5173742) 5.10-5,40 Home and Away (1757723)

6.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (12636) 10.30 Meridian News and Weather (961181) 10.45 Highlander (166510) 11.40 A406 (375520)

12.10em Campus Cops (9567150) 5.00 Freescreen (28308)

ANGUA As HTV West sweept: 12,55-1,25 A Country Practice (9908471)

1.55 Savaumeti (2543100) 2,50-3,20 Ltza's Country (5173742) 8.10-5.40 Shortland Street (1757723) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (593891) 10.40 Film: The Gauntlet (88971162)

Starts: 8.00em Segame Street (37617) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (32075) 9.00 Bewitched (88181) 9.30 Sister Sister (8900029) 9.55 Hangin' with Mr Cooper (130001) Crystal Maze (7655988) 11.20 Earthworm Jim (4825433) 11.45 The Pink Penther 12 nn Fresh Pop (4514365) (6357636) 12.00 Fresh Pop (4514365) 12.05pm California Dreams (9609617) 12.30 Collectors' Lot (74167) 1.00 Slot Melfurin (32344510) 1,15 Slot Synladau Sal [3234910] 1.18 sort symbous san (37394015) 1.30 Film: The Three Musiceters (83453013) 3.30 Fresh Pop (9916704) 4.00 Fitteen-to-One (520) 4.30 Mad About Machines (704) 5.00 5 Pump (8232549) 5.15 Mynd Drot Drot (5394549) 5.30 Countdown (384) 6.00 Newyddion (434810) 6.05 Heno (46010) 6.35 Bob Yn Ddau (705810) 7.00 Pobol y Cum (196433) 7.25 Cymru Gudd (701758) 8.00 Olion Ddoe: Cadw Ty (8988) 8.30 Newyddion (2033) 9.00 To the Ends of the Earth: The Transylvanian Job (3549) 10.00 Brookside (76346) 10.30 The Best of the Last Resort (8089655) 11.35 TFF Friday (903297) 12.35am Robin (7738563) 12.40 Flave (1508245) 1.15 Film: And Soon the Darkness (445308) 3.05 Film: Taste of Fear (7758563) 4.30-5.55 Film: Eye Witness

#### CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street The quest is Michael Chang (37817) 7.00 The Big Breaklast (32075) 9.00 Bewritched (r) (T) (88181) 9.30 Sister Sister (r) (8900029) 9.55 Hangin' with Mr Cooper (r) (T) (7358617) 10.20 The Crystal Maze (r) (7555988) 11.20 Earthworm Jim (r) (4825433) 11.45

The Pink Panther (6357636) 12.00 Fresh Pop (4514365) 12.05pm California Dreams (9609617)

12.30 Light Lunch with Ben Elion and Sue Lawrence, a Mastercher (65425) 1.30 Pet and Mat Animation (22036618)

1.55 Sunday Dinner for a Soldier (1944, 500) with Anne Bader, John Hodiak and Charles Winninger. A cornedy drama about a poor family living on a Florida houseboat who invite a soldier to their home. Directed by Lloyd Bacon (1) 3.30 Travelling Light Tim Grundy and Peter

Hamilton visit Glencoe, Fort William and The list of Skya (T) (623) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (520) 4.30 Countdown (T) (704) 5.00 Ricki Lake (2704) 5.30 The Real Holiday Show (r) (T) (384)

6.00 TFI Friday Music is provided by Depeche Mode, Supergrass and Texas (10278) 7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (729549) 7.55 Thatcher's Children (625655)

8.00 The Lost Gardens of Heligan (4/5) The four walled acres of the productive gardens (1) (8988) 8.30 Brookside Mick is the bearer of bad news and Jimmy explains about the baby

(T) (2033) 9.00 Caroline in the City Del and Carolina's romantic weekend is disrupted by a chance meeting with Del's embittered tormer wite (1) (9075)

9,30 Spin City Mike stands in for the mayor on Criss Cross, a top-rated TV show (T)



Kelesy Grammer and Irland (10,00)

10.00 Fracier A repeat of the pilot episode as pert of a rerun of the first series of the cornedy with Kelsey Grammer. Dr Frasler Craine returns to Seattle in search of a new start (1) (76346)

10.30 The Best of the Last Resort A compilation (1) (8089655) 11.35 TFI Friday (r) (903297)

12.35em Robin Adult animation (7738583) 12.40 Flava (8/8) Black music (1508245)

1.15 And Soon the Darkness (1970) Pamela
Franklin and Michelle Dotrice star as two
young women on a cycling holiday in
France who tall foul of a sex maniac. Robert Fuest directs (T) (445308) 3.05 Screem of Feer (1961, b/w) A Hammer horror starring Susan Strasberg, directed by Seth Hott (7758583)

4.30 Eye Witness (1956, b/w) A striller starring Donald Sinden and Nigel Stock, directed by Muriel Box (1381898) 5.50 Terryloons (7530414)

#### CHANNELS

6.00am 5 News Early (7077520) 7.30 Havakazoo Magazine for pre-school children (2104278)

8.00 Adventures of the Bush Petrol Drama series about a group of youngsters (2722907)

8.30 Wideworld (2721278) 9.00 Espresso Magazine (5894029)

10.00 Exclusive (6039278) 10.30 Nancy Lam Cookery with Nancy Lam and her husband Ben (i) (T) (2734742)

11.00 Leeza, Chat show (9961926) 11.50 Espresso Update (45528471) 12.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Los

Angeles soap (T) (2725094) 12.30pm Family Affairs (r) (T) (9609810) 1.00 5 News Update (92839346) 1.05 Sunset Beach (1) (6724520) 2.00 6's Company Entertainment show

3.30 Bye Bye Birdle (1983) starring Dick Van Dyke and Janet Leigh. Musical based on Elvis Presley's expanence of the US Army draft. Directed by George Sidney

5.30 100 Per Cent Game show (1671013) 6.00 Whittle Quiz (T) (1678926) 8.30 Family Affairs Nick has a surprise for Chris (T) (1889278)



7.00 Exclusive News from the world of entertainment presented by Jone Coleman and Julia Bredbury (1579162) 7.30 Wildlife SOS The work of a wildlife sanctuary. Featuring the desperate attempts to save a deer and a lox cub (1858162)

8.00 Attractions Presented by Philippa Forrester and Tim Vincent, with this week's guest the England rugby captain, Phil de Gianville (1588810)

8.30 5 Newn (1574617) 9.00 Femily Business (1989) starring Sean Connery, Dustin Hoffman and Matthew Broderick. Impleusible but entertaining heist caper film. Directed by Sidney

Lumet (1182549) 11.00 The Jack Docherty Show (9171931) 11.40 Club Class Cornedy show (2876384) 12.10am News and Sport (2178879)

12.15 Stary Hungry (1976) with Jeff Bridges, Sally Field and Amold Schwarzenegger. Cornedy drame set in a bodybuilding gym. Directed by Bob Refelson (1196969)

2.10 Wyatt Earp: Return to Tombstone (1993) with Hugh O'Brien and Bruce Boxleitner. The guntighter returns to his old stamping ground. Directed by Frank MacDonald and Paul

3,50 Burke's Law (8500691) 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (1200650) 5.30 100 Per Cent (2427259)

#### • For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory. published on Saturday

8.00am Morrorg Glory (300013) 8.00 Regis and Kathre Lee (14278) 10.00 Another World (73346) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (88810) 12.00 Oprah Wintey (69568) 1.00pm Geraldo (45888) 2.00 Sally Jessy 1.00pm Geraldo (45888) 2.00 Sally Jessy 1.00pm Geraldo (45888) 2.00 Sally Jessy 1.00pm Geraldo (45454) 5.00 Sar Tiel: The Near Generation (3075) 6.00 Real TV (5065) 6.30 Marned — with Children (84071 7.00 The Simpsons (4704) 7.30 M\*A\*S\*H (2029) 8.00 JAG (80029) 9.00 Walkin. Teess Reinger (97365) 10.00 High Incident (cues) 8.00 JAG (807.29) 9.00 Welker. Texas Reinger (97.365) 10.00 High Incident (80452) 11.00 Selins Scott (85.278) 11.30 Ster Trak: The Next Generation (62075) 12.30am LAPD (98283) 1.00 Hit Mar (8638414)

7.00pm Beverly Hills 90210 (1922345) 8.00 Melross Place (1931094) 9.00 Pacific Drive (193454) 4.00 (1024756) 10.00 Tales from the Crypt (8879907) 10.30 Tales from the Crypt (8829656) 11.00 Late Show (6446839)

Worldwide naws coverage, with bulletins on SKY MOVIES

8.00ath Medicina River (1983) (38094) 8.00 The Secret Invasion (1984) (48758) 10.00 The Wind and the Lon (1974) (51569) 12.00 Caventan (1981) (74162) 1.36pts Flight of the Ocyces (1971) (59751839) 2.15 The Black Shallon (1879) (20655129) 5.00 The Black Shallon Relatins (1989) (20452) 7.00 Medicine River (1983) (76487) 9.00 Robocop 1989) (66184) 11.00 Disclosure (1984) (44886636) 1.10mc Edge of Decaption (1994) (501563) 2.50 Minute and Medicaeltz (1971) (623582) 4.50 Cavenage (1981) (3304230)

Hz (1971) (923582) 4.50 san (1961) (3904230)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL 1.00m 1'8 Gat by (1950) (36836) 8.00 What Next? U (1974) (47181) 9.00 Mr Horato Kofibbles (36948) 10.00 The Three Worlds of Gulliver (1958) (42691) 12.00 Widnight Fam for Your Life (1994)

(54723) 2.00pm The Other Mother (1995) (84297) 3.30 Joe at the Kingdom of the Arts (5706487) 4.35 Prehysterial II (1994) (5334297) 6.00 Prehysterial III (1995) (22297) 7.30 UK Top 10 (2839) 8.00 The Englishmen Who Went Up a Hall, But Come Down a Mountain (1995) (1806) 10.00 Village of the Dummed (1995) (787817) 11.40 Killing Zee (1994) (223742) 1.20em Prototype (1991) [505388) 3.00 Reform School Girl (1994) (7831478) 4.25 The Other Mother (1995)

SKY MOVIES GOLD 8.00pm Donovan's Revi (1963) (9739160) 9.00 Vice Versa (1988) (8740907) 10.00 Big Trouble in Line China (1986) (4731549) 11.45 The Beast (1988) (9141891) 1.40am The Four (1988) (9141891) 1.40am The Four Musicateers (1975) (1533872) 3.30-5.40

TNT 8.00pm WCW Nitro (69990891) 9.00 Tom Thumb (1958) (69900278) 11.00 Kelly's Herces (1970) (75304297) 1.30pm Es-cape from East Berlin (1962) (48761650) 3.00-5.00 Tom Thumb (1958) (35632018)

SKY SPORTS 1 7,00am Sports Centre (160/29) 7.30 Super-sters (595/20) 8.30 Racing News (290/29) 9.00 Sports Centre (301/81) 9.30 Aerobox 02 Style (76471) 10.00 Tight Lines (115/20) 11,00 Golf: Medeira Island Onen (31384) 12,00 Tennis. Davis Cup — Live (6481/94) 4.58pm Sports Centre (1040/891) 5.00 World Sport Special (545/2) 5.30 Nobbusiers (5556) 6.00 Sports Centre (622/8) 7.00 Super League — Live (8007/58) 9.30 The Rugby Club (677/23) 10.00 Sports Centre (38638) 11,00 Tennis Davis Cup (64687) 1,30am Sports Centre (553/08) 9.30 Hot 11 Back Page (40660) 3.30-4.30 Sports Centre (13495)

SKY SPORTS 2 8.00pm International Choket Live (4259365) 10.00 Westlarg: Raw (1734549) 12.00 The Rugby Club (3205501) 12.30am-1.00 World Sport Special (9637218)

SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 Netbusters (93788297) 12.30pm Football League Review (86013365) 2.00 Snooker British Open — Live (50796742) 5.00 Snowboard Snow (21558100) 5.30 Velo-Cycling Magazine (42604810) 6.00 BMX Supreme (57956788) 7.00 Snooker British Open — Lare (70608520) 10.30 Velo-Cycling Magazine (93765346) 11.00-12.00 Hold the Beck Page (90081346) **EUROSPORT** 

7-30mm Footbal (64452) 9.00 All Sports (47520) 10.00 Trashlori (1366) 11.00 Speed Skating (50568) 1.00pm Motor Sports (6810) 2.00 Snowboarding (6568) 2.20 Sworp (1969) 3.00 Mourism Biol (5075) 3.30 All Sports (6843) 4.30 Freenite (4452) 9.00 Football (33278) 7.00 in-Line Skating (24433) 8.00 Tractor Pulling (33181) 9.00 Bosting (20517) 10.00 Fun Sports (23704) 11.00 Water Poto (14617) 12.00-12.30mm Cycling (89872) UK GOLD

7.00em Singer's Day (1642810) 7.26 Neighbours (5393487) 8.00 Crossroods (3228704) 8.25 EastEnders (6669925) 9.00 The Bit (1435955) 9.30 Don't Wat Up (7353587) 19.00 Never the Trean (3394520) 10.30 The Sullivans (6786516) 11.00 The Rockford Files (4758704) 12.00 Crossroods (1530510) 12,30pm Neighbours (3753623) 1,00 EastEnders (9639723) 1,35 The Two Ronnes (4576926) 2,30 For the Love of Ade (2369162) 3,00 Goldmaster (3716013) 3,30 23991621 3.00 Goldmaste (3/10013) and The Bill (2371907) 4.00 All Creatures Great and Small (5135430) 5.00 Bruce Foreyth's Generation Garrier (30243926) 6.05 East-Enders (4067346) 6.40 Aer You Bong Served? (1962279) 7.20 Russ Abbot (5789988) 8.20 In Sickness and in Health (8295839) 9.00 The Bill (51316777 9.30 The Chef (79754365) 10.35 The Best of Top of the Pops (1687181) 11.20 The Best of Top of the Pops (3914162) 12.00 FILM: And the Walts Came Tambling Down (91074563) 1.10am FILM: Paint Me a Murder (42521414) 2.30 Shopping at Night

GRANADA PLUS 6.00am The Krypton Factor (5871839) 6-30 5.00mm The Knyson Factor (35 1635)
Tickle on the Turn (2566810) 6.45 The
Magic Ball (79856297) 7.00 1-2-3 Go'
(559348) 7.15 Tickle on the Turn
(5519487) 7.20 Jockson Pace (23994)
8.00 Classic Committee Steel (5918669)
8.30 Families (5817839) 9.00 The Protestionals (5817839) 9.00 The Protestionals (5856487) 18.00 The (5953497) 10.00 The weeds (2734926) 10.30 The Cuck-DO Weltz (5997075) 11.00 William These Walfs (4248742) 12.00 Classoc Coronador Street (591655) 12.30pm Families (6754891) 1.00 Althon Market (4322759) 1.30 The Good Life Guids (6753152) 2.00



The serie Martin Stephens and June Cowell (Movie Channel, 10pm) Doctor Series (8035574) 4.30 The Grundlements (2635538) 5,60 The Protes-Gnamblemeds (2635538) 5.89 The Protessanais (5068181) 6.00 Fembes (1390541) 6.20 Classic Coronation Sueer (7685033) 7.00 The Doctor Saries (506810) 7.30 The Cuckoo Weltz (1285097) 8.00 Upstans. Downsters, (2361365) 9.00 Classic Corona

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

8.00mm Big Garage (9164384) 5.15 Muppel Babies (7912075) 8.46 The Care Boars (1442100) 7.05 Enghamad Talus (9632742) 7.55 The Lista Mermad (1536723) 8.20 Aloddin (2688425) 8.46 Outck Pack (9640758) 9.10 Brand Spanking New Doug (3821742) 9.35 Mighty Ducks (3331723) 19,00 Good Troop (8644549) 10.25 Darkwing Duck (6648988) 10.50 Timen and Pumbee (3558810) 11.15 Borivers (798033) 11,45 The Little Mannato [5450907] 12.10pm Queck Attact: [2389558] 12.40 Mouse Tracks (5199365] L10 Shot with Me Rul (1539162) 2.00 FILM: Aladelin (46075) 3.30 Timon and Pumbae (1377568) 3.40 Deard Speniory New Doug (6496699) 4.05 Gool Troop (6231538) 4.30 Quanti Pack (9638520) 4.55 (4010297) 5.45 Timon and Planbaa (573365) 8.00 Sky Trackers (2461) 5.30

6.00mm Three (Little Chosts (1964991) 8.30)

6.00mm Three Liste Ghosts (1964991) 8.30 impactor Gadget (1490487) 7.00 Samurai Pazar Cata (8429891) 7.30 Eagle Biders (6449828) 8.00 Teanage Matern Hero Turtes (8686881) 8.30 Mached Ridde (867782) 9.00 Bg Bad Beelfeborgs (8687142) 9.30 Power Rangers Zeo (773046) 10.00 Casper (7318639) 10.30 Aco Ventus (8687929) 11.00 Utwell Lustin (8687929) 11.00 Utwell Lustin (8732162) 1.00 Hightander (8429162) 12.00 Eagle Ridders (773463) 2.00 Teanage Matern Hero Turtes (405505) 2.30 Mached Ridder (8577013) 3.00 Big Bad Beelfeborgs (4817101) 3.30 Power Rangers Zeo (3655788) 4.00 Casper (2602363) 4.30 Ace Ventura (3588549) 5.00 Sputerman (4896817) 8.30 Goosebumps (355029) 6.00-7.00 Sweet Velley High TCCC

Timon and Pumbas (4471) 7.00 FELIX Aindelin (1498) 8.30 Timon and Pumbas (3073) 8.00-10.00 Pupper (69891)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6,00mm. Road to Avonles (73471) 7.80

Dermis the Mensice (20452) 8.00 Barman (20451) 1.30 An Americ (2055) 1.00 Florid Gordon (78907) 8.30 Bobby's World (12297) 19.00 Romusic the Rendeer (31891) 13.30 Robusson Sucroe (65891) 11.00 Danger Mouse (37487) 11.30 Gravedie High (2988) 12.00 Casar's Orcheste (69471) 12.30pm Hellwey Across the Gestey end Erm Lett (16713) 1.00 By Way of the Stars (47568) 1.30 The New Adventures of Black Beauty (15364) 2.00 The Grit torm Tomprow (4888) 2.30 Ocean Odyssey (2636) 3.00 Art Attack Ocean Odyssey (2636) 3,00 Art Attack (6723) 3,30 Plash Gordon (7181) 4,00 an (3968) 4.30-5.00 The Big Dish

Non-stop carbons from 5,000m to 9,000pm Includes Tom and Juny, Popeye

NICKELODEON

6.00mm Teerage Mutant Hero Turkes (41345) 6.30 Count Duckula (78933) 7.00 Captain Simon and the Space Monkeys (31471) 7.30 Tales from the Crypticepe (20278) 8.90 Brune the Kid (48100) 8.30 (20278) 8.00 Bruno the Kd (48100) 8.30 Hey Amouti (47471) 9.00 Hugrets (38723) 9.30 Hugrets (38723) 9.30 Hugrets (74013) 10.00 Azatati Real Monsters (94365) 10.30 Doug (34907) 11.00 Rodeo's Modern Life (19013) 11.30 Balley Npper's Point of View (19742) 12.00 Kenen and Iudi (21487) 12.50pm The Secret World of Alex Med. (58029) 1.00 Date: Date: 127471 12.00 Modern Life (19747) 130 Modern Life (19747 Sister (33742) 1.30 Moesha (77100) Sester Saster (337/42) 1.30 Moesha (77100) 2,80 Round the Twist (2742) 2.30 The Advertures of Pete and Pete (7162) 3.00 Section' Around (8549) 3.30 Aasthin Real Monsters (8907) 4.00 Sester Saster (1742) 4.30 Sester Saster (7926) 5.00 Sister Saster (3004) 5.30 Sister Saster (8278) 6.00 Press Geng (8891) 6.30-7.00 Doug (2471)

TROUBLE 12.00 Heartmenk High (6703948) 1.00 pm Madeon (4254988) 1.30 Sweet Valley High (6808592) 2.00 Hamparne (3795346) 2.30 Calliomie Dreams (2457758) 3.00 Bylar Grove (3701181) 3.30 No Natvot Parines (2366075) 4.00 Sweat Valley High (2378810) 4.00 Henghrer (2374034) 5.00 Saved by the Bell (3713926) 6.30 Californa Dreams (2365346) 6.00 Bylar Grove (2465407) 6.30 Madison (2386538) 7.08-8.00 Heartmenk High (2665364)

8.00pm The New Twight Zone (37025)10) 8.30 The New Trafight Zone (37986)7) 9.90

The Burning Zone (9662568) 10.00 Tour of Outy (9665655) 11,00 FILM: The Other Hell (9473145) 1.00mea The Burning Zone (4445360) 2.00 Tour of Duty (9447969) 3.00 FILM: The Other Hell (922143) 5.00 The New Twilight Zone (5649394) 5.30 The New Twilight Zone (8600747) PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7,00pts Entertainment UK (6759 7.30 Rosams (8556) 8.00 Rosesma (9276) 8.30 Monty Python (1013) 9.00 Cheers (34076) 9.30 Tax (85355) 10.00 Genry Shandang (26988) 10.30 Fasser (35636) 11,00 Collins and Macons's Move Cuto

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Furniture to Go (2367704) 3.00 Two Country (3714655) 3.30 This Old House DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rev Huni's Fishing Adventures (2381384) 4.30 Bush Tucker Man (2387568) 5.00 Treasure Hunters (3718100) 5.30 Beyond 2000 (2361520) 6.00 Wild Things (4503986) 7.00 Inventor (370663) 7.20 Wonders of Weather (2388297) 8.00 Jurissica (9655278) 9.00 Medical Descritives (525487) 9.30 Science Detectives (525487) 9.30 Science Detectives (525487) 10.00 Justice Files (8741029) 11.00 Best of British (4277839) 12.00 Classic Wheels (4052495) 1.30em-2.00 The Entermists (7273768) The Extremests (7273768)

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7.00pm Jazgran 7.30 Electron Special 8.00 ZEE Calino 8.30 Shri Krishna 9.00 Punjebi Folk 9.30 Yasdon Ke Rang 10.00 Chalo Cinema 10.30 Kahkeshan 11.00 Zalke Ke Salar 11.30 Hasratan 12.00 Andaz 12.30pm Dhoop Aur Chaon 1.00 FILM: Acustiandism 4.00 ZEE Zone Presents Adustrancement 4.00 ZEE Zone Presents 4.10 Karnal Kombineson 4.45 Seamp Seedt 5.15 Young Buzz 6,00 Beef Ke Pg 6.30 ZEE and You 7.00 Shu Chale Che 7.30 Biochon: Special 8.00 Naves 8.35 Perampara 9.05-12.00 Fit.M: Takker MIV

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**RUGBY UNION 41** 

Wasps looking to make amends against Bath

# SP()RT

**RUGBY LEAGUE 45** 

Harris gets break with £325,000 move to Leeds



FRIDAY APRIL 4 1997

England given World Cup lift

# Hoddle plans return to pole position

GLENN HODDLE flew out of southern Poland yesterday afternoon over fields dotted with peasant farmers following their horses and ploughs and sowing their seeds by hand. It is time-warp territory down here and even the events of Wednesday evening took the England coach back closer to a period when things were more as they should be.

Hoddle had watched with 32,000 baying fans in the renovated Slaski Stadium as Poland forced Italy to drop the first two points of their hitherto serene World Cup qualifying campaign by holding them to a goalless draw. The Poles, in fact, could have blown group two wide open. but one golden scoring chance was wasted and the opportu-

nity of victory slipped away. Hoddle, who joined his assistant, John Gorman, before the game, insisted yesterday morning that he would have preferred Poland to win. But with England's defeat by Italy at Wembley in February having ended their intoxicating opening run of three successive qualifying victories, the most significant effect of the result on Wednesday night was that it left the England coach and his side in control of their own destiny once again. England have four matches

left to play, of course; at home to Georgia at the end of this month, away to Poland here on the last day of May, at home to Moldova on September 10 and, finally, the show-down with Italy in the Olympic stadium in Rome on October 11. But Italy are only four points ahead, having played a game more, and their goal difference has not spi-

Hoddle was buoyed enough by what he saw here, by what he identified as isolated incidences of panic in the Imlian defence and lack of penetration by the Poles, to suggest that, if he can field his first-choice team consistently, England could claim the only automatic qualifying place in group two by winning all of

their remaining ties. "I always feit that there were chances that both ourselves and Italy would drop points in this group in games other than when we played each other," Hoddle said, "and that that might decide the group. Italy have dropped their first two now and we have just got to make sure that the same thing

does not happen to us-"It seems as though there is more of a fair wind blowing for us now. There is more daylight there. I have not been able to play anywhere near my strongest team yet and, if we can get that side out regularly, I believe we will be able to get to the finals by winning the group. If it comes down to the last match against Italy, then

#### **GROUP TWO**

MATCHES TO COME: Apr 30; England v Georgia; Italy v Poland. May 31; Poland v England., June 7; Georgia v Moldova. June 14; Poland v Georgia v Bot 10; England v Moldova; Georgia v Italy, Sept 24; Moldova v Georgia, Oct 7; Moldove v

the pressure might be more on them because they are at

The game away against Georgia will be another hard one for them and our match against Poland here will be difficult for us. It is a hell of a hard task playing over here because, over the 90 minutes gainst Italy, I thought the Poles were the better side.

"It is a tight group, though, and if you look too far ahead, you do it at your peril. I have got to be guarded. We have just got to concentrate on putting our own house in order and taking care of our own results."

Wojtala, the Polish centre back, missed the best chance of the game on Wednesday

night, five minutes before halftime. Batuszynski's fierce free kick bounced in front of Peruzzi and, when it rebounded off the Italian goalkeeper's chest, it sat up invitingly for Wojtala, but he could not direct his header downwards and nodded it over the bar from less than six yards.

Italy, who had been the epitome of measured control and casual elegance in the first half an hour, seemed shaken by that chance and a spate of half-chances that fell Poland's way as the interval ap-proached, and Hoddle drew some encouragement from their rare display of fallibility.

"The Italians looked a bit panicky in defence at times," Hoddle said. "Even at Wembley, against us, they looked a little bit apprehensive. Going forward, they failed to get round the back of the Poles and that is where so many chances come.

"It is something we have to pay attention to when we play here. It is not really a case of me playing a winger instead of a wing back, because someone like Graeme Le Saux has been outstanding in our recent matches and he could do that for us. We have got to come here in a positive frame of mind and churn out a result." First, of course, England

have to overcome a Georgia team that only lost to a solitary Ravanelli goal when they played in Italy last October. After the injury deluge that fell upon Hoddle before the international against Mexico last weekend, it will represent his first opportunity of moving back towards that elusive "strongest team" that peoples

If Alan Shearer does not suffer any setback in his recovery from a third groin operation, he should be fit to partner Teddy Sheringham in attack for the first time under Hoddle's leadership and Sol Campbell, Tony Adams and David Beckham are also likely to be available for selection.

Scots remain wary, page 44 Lyone Truss, page 46



Super Sandy soars over The Chair in the John Hughes Trophy, run over the Grand National course, yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

## National a less weighty problem

BACING CORRESPONDENT

THE 150th Martell Grand National at Aintree tomorrow will be the most lopsided for years, with less than a quarter of the field carrying their proper weight. The unbai-anced look to the world's most famous steeplechase became reality yesterday after Kim Bailey, trainer of Master Oats. declared the 1995 Cheltenham Gold Cup winner for the 42-mile race and thereby effectively reduced the chances of

many of his 39 rivals. Master Oats will shoulder top weight of 11st 10lb, 15lb more than any other horse. Only nine of the 40 runners are carrying more than the minimum of ten stone. If Bailey had decided against running his horse, the weights would have gone up by 15lb

into the proper handicap. Instead, 31 horses will carry ten stone — up to 28lb more than their ability and official handi-

cap rating warrants. In theory, the bottom-heavy look to the weights should make picking the winner far easier, as an anticipated 15

Aintree hazards

million people wager £65 million on the outcome. During the past 30 years, only two horses have won the race from "out of the handicap" — Little Polyeir in 1989 and Foinavon in the infamous pile-up race of 1967. However, in practice, this year's race looks one of the most open of recent times.

"The race looks particularly

ing down and any one of four or five horses could still start favourite," Ian Wassell, of Ladbrokes, said. "Avro Anson is the 'buzz' horse this week. failing from 16-1 to 9-1, and he could fall further as he is attracting public and professional support."

With warm sunshine and strong winds drying out the ground at Aintree yesterday and no heavy rain forecast before tomorrow, the likely fast conditions will count against several fancied, mudloving horses - notably Suny Bay, who is vying for favouritism.

The opening day of the Grand National meeting was packed with incident yesterday -- off-course as well as on it. The bomb scares which brought motorway traffic to a standstill during the morning contributed to two horses failing to reach the course in time. while a police escort was needed for a horsebox carry-ing six runners trained by Martin Pipe.

"We thought we would defi-nitely miss the first race and possibly the second but the police and everyone were superb and we made it in time," Eamon Leigh, Pipe's travelling head lad, said.

On the course, David Nichhonours with a 196-1 treble achieved by Midnight Legend, Barton Bank and Escartefigue. However, three jockeys face a fitness struggle after picking up injuries during the John Hughes Trophy, run over the Grand National course. Carl Llewellyn, Jamie Evans and Robert Thornton were taken to Fazackerley Hospital for X-rays.



Richard Dunwoody, twice winner of the Grand National, gives his view of the race.

Colour guide to the Aintree runners and riders and the experts' view of who will win the biggest race of the year.

Richard Evans on Peter O'Sulleven's last cell.

# TWO TIMES

#### No 1059

Restless desire (4)

grasp (6)

4 Dispatched (4)

10 Jean Baptiste -.

14 Counterfeit (5)

16 Rue (6)

landscapist (5)

21 Zulu regiment (4)

3 Acute: elusive: hard to

6 Out of the ordinary (11)

8 German region, has gdteau

18 Non-trick-winning cards (6)

19 Caucus-race organiser (Al-

- ACROSS 5 (Actors) leave stage (6)
- 7 Incompetent (6) Rebound (bullet) (8)
- 11 Breathe fast, shallowly (4) 12 Horse dealer (5)
- 13 Tell off (6) 15 French cafe (6)
- 17 Cali menacingly (dog) (5) 19 Take meal (4)
- 20 "Nor all, that gold" 22 Of superior quality (2.4)
- 23 Gateman; type of ale (6)
- DOWN

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## **Board stung by Wisden strictures**

BY SIMON WILDE

THE lashing that English cricket received from Matthew Engel, the editor, in the new edition of Wisden Cricketers Almanack met with a predictable response from the game's establishment yesterday. The summer game, it declared. is in rude health on and off the field. Rather more unexpectedly, it took the trouble to outline in detail the reasons why.

These were provided in a statement from Tim Lamb, the chief executive of the newlyformed England and Wales Cricket Board, who was also intimately involved in the

operations of the now defunct Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) that so aroused the ire of Engel, who wrote that the shortcomings of the national team were "merely the superficial expression of a far deeper mess".

Lamb gave several reasons for optimism, stating that there are more young cricketers in Britain than ever before. that investment in the domestic game is at a record level and that revenues from ticket sales, broadcasting and sponsorship deals are strong.

Only one of his points.

Last year, Black, ranked

to happen to British tennis

Delgado: on right track

Albert Costa

Lamb emphasised the successes of the England A and Under-19 teams but their results only appear to confirm have a hand in the failures at higher level.

"Cricket is thriving in this country and the general level of interest in the game has never been higher," Lamb said. "All this hardly points to a game in crisis. However, we do accept that it is inevitable that the game will be judged to a large extent by the performances of the national side however, addressed results on and we accept that our results the field, which is where at Test level need to improve." and we accept that our results

Engel, responding to the wide publicity given to his editorial notes in Wisden. which was published yesterday, said: "I do not think I was being especially controversial - I think I was stating the obvious. The job of Wisden is to put things into perspective. We take a step back and try to see the game in a historical

context. The fact is that English cricket is in a particularly catastrophic state. I don't think I have been anything like as hysterical as some of the stuff which has appeared in national newspapers in

## Time to test tennis revival's depth

By ALIX RAMSAY

THE much-publicised resurgence of men's tennis in Great Britain faces its sternest test to date as David Lloyd and his troops meet Zimbabwe in the Davis Cup, which starts today at Crystal Palace. Robbed by injury of Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski, Lloyd, the captain, has had to call on Jamie Delgado and Andrew Richardson to push Britain towards qualification for the World Group, the premier

division of the competition. To find himself as Britain's top player comes as some-thing of a surprise for Delgado. Three weeks ago, he was not even in the team, but that was before Rusedski's wrist and Henman's elbow had put them out of the running.

As team-mates go, Delgado, all 5ft 8in of him, and Richardson, at 6ft 7in, could not look more different, but they must face a vastly more experienced player in Byron Black. Delgado will meet the Zimbabwe No I on Sunday,

won the 14-and-under Orange Bowl in the United States but, when it came to growing up No 46 in the world, earned nearly £500,000 in prizeand playing against big boys, he was left trailing, not least

in the height stakes. money and collected one singles and four doubles titles on the ATP Tour. This year, he No matter, last year, with the help of his coach, Dave has beaten Marcelo Rios and Samuel, and a few pointers from Peter Fleming, he grad-It has taken Delgado, 20, ually climbed up the rankings some time to recover from and feels at last that his career being hailed as the best thing is on the right track.

Today, he opens the tie against Wayne Black, brother some six years ago. Then, he of Byron, which on paper is the easier of the day's two rubbers. Wayne. 23, the younger of the brothers by four years, is ranked No 271 and has had his greatest moments on the American collegiate circuit. That is not to say the result can be assured and, in many ways, it puts yet more pressure on Delgado. If he

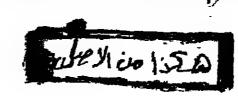
loses, Richardson has got to beat Byron Black in the second rubber to give Britain a chance - and that is a tall order, even for Richardson. Not that Delgado seems too

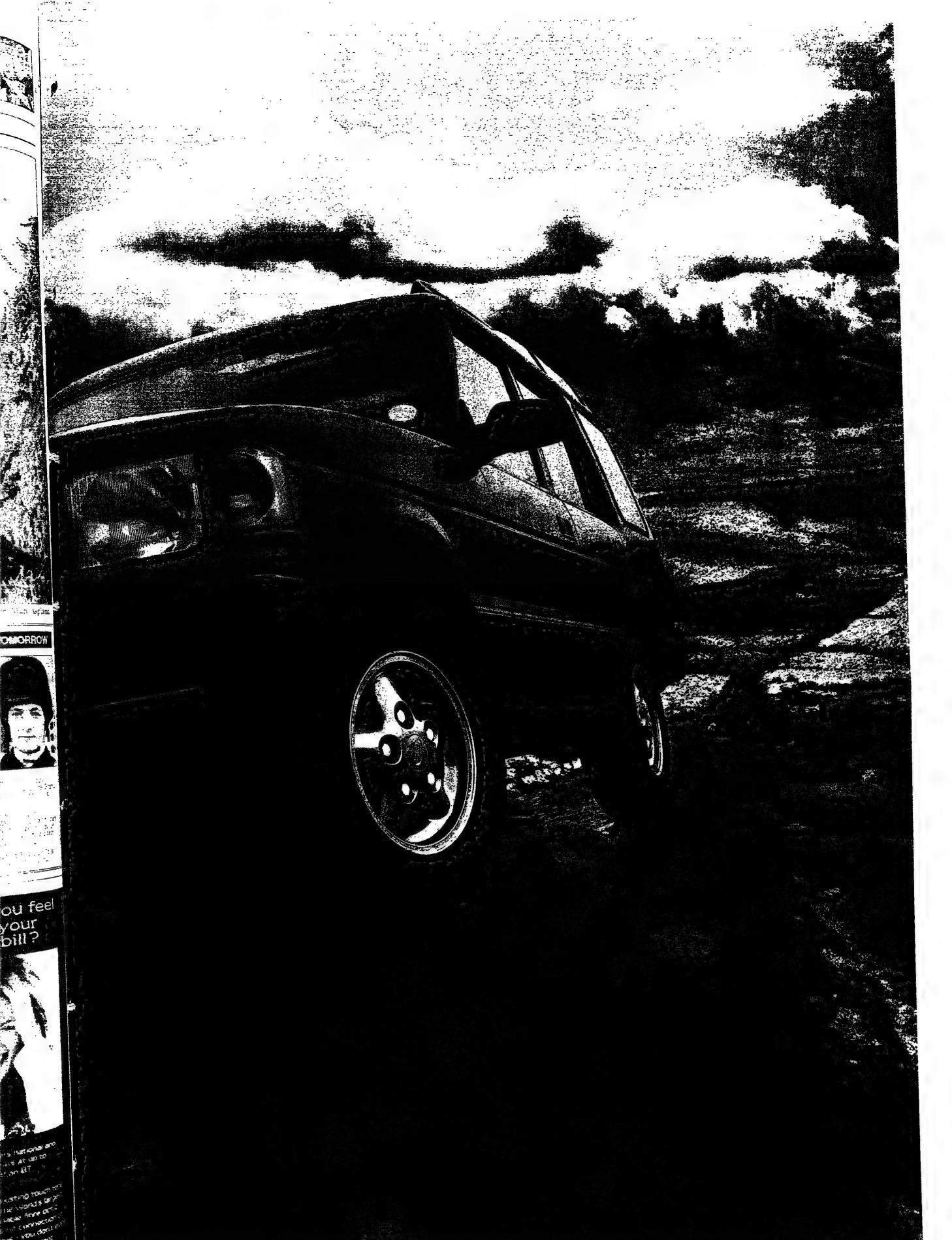
"I'm terribly excited and I'm nervous," he said. "Any-thing can happen in the Davis Cup, but I've got nothing to lose. It's a great opportunity for myself and Andrew to show we can play and to show that there are a few more players around in Britain."

The doubles, tomorrow, pits the brothers Black against Neil Broad and Mark Petchey. Although Petchey has a higher ranking than either Delgado or Richard-son, he has been relegated to the doubles after a truly miserable run of singles results in the Davis Cup over the past few years.

It would appear that Zim-babwe's tennis fortunes, like those of Britain, rely mainly on the performances of just two men, in Byron and Wayne Black. The two other members of the team, Genius Chidzikwe and Peter Nyam-ande, have but one ranking point between them, and that belongs to Chidzikwe -- placing him at No 1,294 in the







THE BEST 4X4XFAR FROVER



# old guard give politics a fresh face Babes' army ready for battle with the old guard

Carol Midgley on two Labour candidates hoping to give politics a fresh face



Lorna Fitzsimons: seeking to dislodge a Liberal Democrat 20 years her senior

ment last came to power, Ruth Kelly and Lorna ons were in primary school. Yesterday they were doing battle for Tony Blair's babes' army - the fresh-faced twenty-somethings recruited to use their youth, brains and spotless images to wrestle key marginal seats from older Ms Kelly, who at 28 is the

WHEN a Labour govern-

youngest candidate in the country to fight a key seat, will try to dislodge the Home Office Minister Tom Sackville, 46, from Bolton West, which he has held for the Tories since 1983. Ms Fitzsimons, 29. is trying to oust Liz Lynne, a Liberal Democrat 20 years her senior, from Rochdale. Miss Lynne has responded by cointing to her rival's youth and inexperience, in contrast her own record at

The young challengers -educated, clean-cut and hardworking professionals — conform to the blueprint of a modern Labour candidate. are immaculately turned out, have combed hair and unbitten nails, in keeping with new party advice that candidates should be unfussy and businesslike in

Ms Kelly, who last summer married Derek Gadd, a councillor in the London borough of Tower Hamlets, is expecting her first child in early

hopes - having taken her seat at Westminster. Neither woman is old enough to remember the winter of discontent but both say that they are looking forward to a ment. They see their youth as a Weapon of power, not a dis-

Ms Kelly, a manager dealing with European monetary union for the Bank of Englard, said: "Of all the people I have canvassed in Bolton West, no one has suggested that I am too young. I think being young is an advantage. People have lost their trust in politicians in Westminster but we are starting with a clean sheet. We are not tainted by any of the sleaze and we can genuinely claim to be in touch with the under-

You need a new young breed of MPs to reinstate the trust. The other day one woman who was complaining about corrupt MPs suddenly stopped and said, 'But I can't really blame you for that because you're so young, can

Ms Kelly, an Oxford graduate and former journalist for The Guardian, added that her pregnancy hardly made her blueprint material "I wouldn't be pregnant now if I was a career politician, would I? These things are never exactly planned, but I am 28 and I never made any secret of the fact I wanted a



Ruth Kelly: believes that being young and in touch with the under-35s will be a big electoral advantage

family. I'm sure I'll manage - Harriet Harman was seven months pregnant when she was first elected. The Labour Party have been great about it."

Miss Fitzsimons, from Rochdale, is the youngest guest to have appeared on BBC Television's Question Time. Her modernist approach when she was president of the National Union of Students earned her the description of "bourgeois mid-die-class bitch" from far-Left students. Wearing a black

she said that being smart was ethic, "Where I come from, putting your best clothes on your Sunday best - is what you do when you want to make an effort for people you respect, as I do the people of

"If a PPC iprospective parbe bothered to look smart, why should you be interested in voting for them? I haven't how to dress — it's just how I was brought up.

the age of 40 to offer your services to your country? It is the quality of dedication, not the age, which counts. I have the time and energy to

"If the worst thing Liz Lynne can say about me is that I am 20 years younger than her, then she is in trouble. I am a moderniser, firmly in the Blair wing of the party, and I supose I embody new Labour.

Many Labour candidates have been issued with guidelines on appearance for television interviews during the election campaign. Women are told to wear unfussy clothes and to avoid untidy hairstyles and dangling

"Do try to look smart and businesslike plains not pat-terns," say the guidelines. Men are told to take their jackets off and to wear foundation if they are prone to

sweat under camera lights. Miss Kelly, dressed in a navy suit, string of pearls and a cerise shirt, said that dress codes for an MP were common sense, "It is obvious that you don't wear leans and a Tshirt to see your constituents. People have to trust the person they elect, so how you esent yourself is important.

"But I haven't had anything from head office telling me what to wear. There are a lot more important issues to fight this election on than

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# Williams sets out pledges to the 'policy-minded' sex

Polly Newton on the Lib Dems' message to women

Liberal Democrats wooed women voters yesterday with a five-point pledge delivered by Baroness Williams of Crosby.

The party hopes that its education and health plans will capture the support of women, whom it believes are "less tribal" than men and more willing to give policies a fair hearing.

Baroness Williams promised fairer pensions for women; a better deal for parttime workers; lifelong access to education for women; an enhanced role for women in public life; and a better health

service for women. She said: "Women's votes and women's attitudes are extremely important. Women put much more emphasis on the quality of public services and rather less on the level of taxes as men do." The commitment to reintroduce free dental and eye checks was

Baroness Williams at a playgroup yesterday

entremely important About 23 million women are eligible to vote. Baroness Williams, who took the party message to a playgroup in

Hammersmith, west London,

yesterday, said that between a third and a quarter still had to decide which party to support. Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, said

that too many women felt shut

don't like the Punch and Judy style, they don't like the soundbites, and too often they don't hear any discussion of the policies which matter to them and their families."

In a special section of the manifesto aimed at women. the party will promise a gradual introduction of employment and pension rights to part-time employees and a strengthening of the law on domestic violence. Equal treatment of sexes within the NHS will be promoted, with a promise to make it easier to

see a woman doctor. The party hopes to tackle the under-representation of women on public bodies by setting a target that, within a decade, at least one third of members should be women. The manifesto will also promise reform of Parliament to make it more accommodating to women and families.

#### Flotilla launch for Goldsmith

Sir James Goldsmith is to launch the Referendum Party's election campaign on Tuesday from Newlyn harbour in Cornwall. A flotilla of 100 fishing boats, flying the party flag, will leave the harbour when he fires a starting gun. Sir James will quayside and visit a seamen's mission. Trawlermen are expected to tell him of their concerns about the common fisheries policy.

#### Smith's successor

The Tory candidate to replace Tim Smith, who stood down in Beaconsfield after accepting payments in the cash-for-questions affair, will be chosen tomorrow. David Harris, St Ives's MP for 14 years, and Tony Favell, John Major's former parliamenta-ry private secretary, are in the

#### Homeless voters

Homeless people have been allowed to give their address-es as park benches or shop doorways so that they could vote. Norwich City Council agreed to register people with no fixed address provided that they specified where they were sleeping. Two people took advantage of the

#### Posters stolen

Police have been alerted in the constituency of Stroud, Gloucestershire, after 50 Labour election placards pro-moting the candidate, David Drew, were stolen. Party workers believe they may have been taken by political rivals. One said: "It could be an organised thing. A large number have disappeared,"





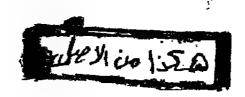
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Nicholas Watt on the tactics being used in Gerry Adams's fight to regain his West Belfast seat

# Sinn Fein seeks votes with vigilantes

Army bases that dominate the skyline of West Belfast, Sinn Fein has launched an election campaign with military precision to recapture Gerry Adams's old seat. Republicans more familiar with wag-ing war against the "Brits" have been drafted in as Sinn Fein turns its forces against the SDLP's Dr Joe Hendron. who unseated Mr Adams in

In a brazen piece of elec-tioneering, Sinn Fein has despatched masked gangs of vigilantes onto the streets to crack down on joy-riders. The vigilantes, who are equipped with spiked chains and walkie-talkies, have concentrated their efforts on the grim estates of Twinbrook and Poleglass, added to the West Belfast constituency under boundary changes.

The second secon

Steel are progra

Serie Mouse

A Sinn Fein team has compiled detailed breakdowns of potential supporters on lap-top computers as they try to overhaul Dr Hendron's slim majority of 589. Their numbers will be swelled by Sinn Fein supporters who are maintaining the republican tradition of "vote early, vote often" by making multiple entries on the electoral roll.

West Belfast, which tops Sinn Fein's list of four target



Gerry Adams: facing a

IN THE shadows of the bleak seats, is crucial to the party's strategy of achieving its greatest electoral success since the foundation of Northern Ireland in 1920. Mr Adams has calculated that if republicans win more than one seat the new government will face formidable pressure to relax its conditions for talking to

> On paper Mr Adams should have little difficulty in recapturing his old seat, which he held from 1983-92, because the political fortunes of the SDLP have plummeted in West Belfast since Dr Hendron's victory. At last May's election to the Northern Ireland Forum, Sinn Fein virtually swept the board when it won 53.4 per cent of the vote compared with 26.5 per cent for the SDLP. The boundary changes will also help Mr Adams.

Sinn Fein, which is worried about complacency among its supporters, insists that the confest will be tight. The party knows that Dr Hendron enjoys a strong personal vote at parliamentary elections and that he can also count on the support of up to 4,000 Protestants in the Shankill area who will vote tactically to keep out Mr Adams.

The neck-and-neck race has created the bitterest contest of the election between Sinn Fein and the SDLP. Party workers on the ground seethe at the sight of their opponents. Barely a day passes without a tussie between Mr Adams and Dr Hendron, who embody the opposing traditions of violent and constitutional nationalism. It is a far cry from the days of the IRA easefire when the leaders of the parties discussed an elec-Mr Adams, 48, stands at

the apex of the republican movement, which has asserted its control over West Belfast through a relentless campaign of terror against the Catholic population. In contrast, the affable Dr Hendron, 64, has stood out as a vehement opponent of violence and privately voiced doubts about the talks his party leader, John Hume, held with Sinn Fein, During a 35-year medical career in



Dr Joe Hendron of the SDLP, who won West Belfast with a 589 majority at the 1992 election. He says that a vote for Sinn Fein is a vote for the IRA

West Belfast he has come face-to-face with the painful reality of republican terrorism.

In a powerful attack on Sinn Fein, Dr Hendron said that the electorate would be giving succour to the IRA if they voted for Sinn Fein. As he prepared for the launch of his campaign this week, he said: "People who vote for Sinn Fein will vote for the

whims of the IRA. People who vote for Sinn Fein will vote for a (ascist, militaristic, sectarian organisation. God help the people of West Belfast if Sinn Fein win."

Dr Hendron derided Mr Adams for the nine years when, although elected for the constituency, he refused to take his seat as an MP in the foreign" Parliament. He said: "In his time as MP Mr

Adams did not bring a single job to West Belfast. But I have played an important role in the creation of 3,000 jobs in the constituency during my five years as an MP."

Sinn Fein, which is campaigning under the slogan of a new opportunity for peace", is trying to bolster its vote by hinting that a strong vote for the party could lead to a renewed IRA ceasefire. At

the launch of his campaign at a community hall off the Falls Road, Mr Adams described the election as a "defining" moment for Ireland. He added: "The incoming British Government will be a new one and all parties will have received fresh mandates. This could spur everyone on by

creating a new sense of purpose in the search for peace." Mr Adams assured supporters that he would still not take his seat at Westminster. He said: "We stand on an abstentionist ticket, but it is a policy of active abstentionism. We will go to Westminster to advance the general interests of our constituents. But we will not take an oath of allegiance to an English Queen and we will not take up our seats in that



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# Mother and son search for road to Westminster

POLITICAL FAMILIES

ELIZABETH PEACOCK found few votes in Parliament Street yesterday (Damian Whitworth writes). The indomitable Mrs Peacock, Batley and Spen's Tory MP for 14 years, had popped across to the neighbouring west Yorkshire seat of Wakefield, where her son Jonathan is the Tory candidate. But they found that the road led them only to the gates of Wakefield prison.

This did little to dampen the spirits of Mrs Peacock, 59, who is one of the greatest escapologists of recent election history. When Conserva-

Leading article ... ...... Page 21

tives with far greater major-ities than hers were swept away at the last election, she increased her vote by 40.

If her 32-year-old son, a

barrister, is successful in se-curing a seat, he should have inherited a good idea about how to hold on to it. Mrs Peacock is quite certain why she is still there. "I'm a very independent Yorkshirewoman. One minister said when he came to speak here that I was bloody minded. I was a bit surprised by that, but maybe it's true," she

She voted against charges for dental and eye checks and

spoke out noisily against government policy on coal mining. This was perhaps crucial in saving her in 1992.

The Labour candidate, Mike Wood, 51, a social worker and former local councilior, argues that Mrs Peacock is neither as independent nor as loyal to the miners as she claims, having voted for the Government's electricity privatisation programme. "She is not prepared to accept the logic of her actions," he

the spot about this. It is likely that Mrs Peacock will have to come out with all guns blazing, especially as the loss of the traditionally Tory town of Heckmondwike, formerly part of her constituency, means that her estimated

majority, based on 1992 voting, is just 845.

But Danny Lockwood, editor in chief of the Dewsbury Reporter Group of newspapers, which includes The Batley News, says that it is unwise to underestimate the importance of strong local voices in Yorkshire politics. Here, there is rivalry even between towns. Batley and Dewsbury, just a few miles apart, refused to merge their Rugby League clubs. "You talk about the antipathy of northerners to southerners. That is nothing to what Dewsbury men think of Batley



Jonathan and Elizabeth Peacock finding their way around the campaign trail in Wakefield yesterday



# **Records show Clinton** fundraising obsession

HUNDREDS of pages of confidential White House documents reveal that President Clinton was so obsessed with the need to raise cash to campaign for his re-election that he buried himself in the trivia of Democratic Party fundraising.

The six-inch stack of records compiled by Harold Ickes, Mr Clinton's former Deputy Chief of Staff, counters the President's claim that he kept a clear distinction between money-raising for his own campaign and for the party.

The documents, demanded by a congressional committee investigating allegations of unethical fundraising techniques, convey an atmosphere of desperation as the Democrats struggled to pull themselves out of the political abyss they had reached in 1994.

In themselves, the documents do not point to illegality. But they are unusually detailed. Mr Ickes appears to have been a compulsive notetaker, despite the possibility that records would be subpoenaed at a future date, a risk

that deters most prominent American officials from keeping a diary or notes.

Taken together with other records which have emerged, Mr Ickes's notes may prove acutely troublesome for the President and Vice-President

Mr Clinton is fighting hard to establish that he did not misuse the office of the President to help the Democratic Party campaign, and the



Ickes: squeezed out

Democratic National Committee (DNC) is trying to demonstrate that it did not knowingly receive illegal contributions from foreigners.

The documents released on Wednesday — the second set of records surrendered to congressional investigators by Mr Ickes — may also further damage the Democratic Party's ability to raise money. Still in debt from last year's presidential campaign, the party is struggling to raise money to fund next year's congressional elections and to repay earlier contributions whose source is now in question.

According to the new docu ments, Mr ickes warned Mr Clinton and Mr Gore in February last year that "the fundraising needs for the DNC will require a very substantial commitment of time from the President, the Vice-President, the First Lady and Mrs Gore". In the memo, Mr Ickes underlined very substantial".

In November 1995, a year before the election, campaign contributions were falling so

far short of expectations that Mr Ickes recommended to President Clinton that he, together with Mr Gore and Hillary Clinton, try to solicit money through personal telephone calls to potential do-nors. Mr Ickes reckoned that the only way to raise \$1.2 million in a hurry would be for the President to make 20 calls, the Vice-President 15 and Mrs Clinton ten. Of the three, only Mr Gore has acknowledged making fundraising calls at that point in the campaign.

Mr Ickes, one of the White

House staff in Mr Clinton's first term who regarded themselves as the President's liberal conscience, was gradually squeezed out as the President's policies moved towards the centre. He lost the battle for the top job of Chief of Staff to the much more conservative Erskine Bowles, Mr Ickes has not talked in

detail of his time in the White House, beyond handing over records to Congress. They have been heavily censored, with passages held back on the advice of his lawyers.



# IMF looks into secret Israeli fund for Arafat

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S transfer of almost £100 million in tax revenue to a secret bank account under the control of Yassir Arafat, the President of the Palestinian Authority, is being investi-gated by the International Monetary Fund.

Money has been deposited in the account since 1994 to reimburse the authority for export taxes levied on fuel intended for Palestinian consumers. But an internal IMF document says the account, with a Tel Aviv bank, is "not under the supervision or con-trol of the Palestinian Finance

mats, only two people can operate the account, Mr Arafat and Muhammad Rashid, his senior economic adviser. Other taxes that Israel has agreed to transfer to the authority were sent to banks outside Israel.

Haaretz, the Israeli daily, says at least part of the money deposited in the secret account was intended to elude the supervision of donor nations such as the United States. The newspaper said some of the funds were used to pay for the "bloated Palestinian security apparatus and the salaries of tens of thousands of superflu-

ous clerks - purposes not

Yassir Arafat at a Palestinian police exercise yesterday

authorised by the donor nations". A senior Israeli official said

some of the funds were intended for two different purposes. One was to get Mr Arafat, his family and a few senior officials away in the event of a coup. The other was a group of actions that the Arafat administration felt committed to finance in order to keep political power bases. This was also expenditure that donor nations would never approve. the official said.

But Dr Maher al-Kurd, the Palestinian Deputy Economics and Trade Minister, defended such practices. "The Palestinian Authority has the power to create economic reserves for itself in case of an emergency — something like a civil war. It's a shame the donor nations and the state of Israel do not understand this."

The issue is to be raised before Israel's parliamentary finance committee next week. Silvan Shalom, the co-o tor for the committee, said: Previous governments transferred the funds to Arafat so that he would be so kind as to carry on with the Oslo [peace]

Avraham Shochat, a former Israeli Finance Minister, said the funds were transferred under arrangements made in the so-called Paris accords, which govern economic cooperation between Israel and

# Netanyahu determined to defy Americans at summit

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

THE Middle East crisis entered its third week unabated yesterday as clashes again rocked the occupied West Bank and Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, vowed not to compromise on settlement building during a crucial summit with President Clinton next Monday.

Jewish settlers mobilised to stiffen Mr Netanyahu's resolve in the face of Israeli reports that Mr Clinton would press for a temporary freeze on settlement construction, at least in annexed east Jerusalem, as part of a package deal to rescue the peace process from the brink of collapse.

"The Prime Minister will make clear in Washington that Israel stands by its right to build in Jerusalem and in settlements, and that building will continue at Har Homa, said Shai Bazak, Mr Netanyahu's spokesman, referring to the project for 6,500 new Jewish homes in east Jerusalem which led to the latest

spiral of violence. The Arabs rejected the Israeli stance, increasing the formidable difficulties facing Mr Clinton in finding any quick diplomatic fix to halt the violence that has left nearly 600 Palestinians wounded and nine people dead, including

three Jewish victims of a Tel Aviv suicide bomb.

in an attempt to avert more suicide bombs, Israel announced yesterday it had suspended its request to extradite a leader of Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, from the US, "The Israeli Government has informed the US that at this stage, it wishes to suspend its request to extra-dite Hamas leader Moussa Abu Marzook to Israel," a statement from Mr Netanyahu's office said. "The decision was made on the basis of considerations relating to security and the prevention of



#### Mitterrand tapped telephones

Paris: Secret files from Francois Mitterrand's anti-terrorist unit discovered in a rented garage show the late Prench President ordered widespread illegal telephone tapping during his 14 years in power (Susan Bell writes). Often he was trying to protect his privacy, and especially the existence of his illegitimate daughter, Mazarine.

The archives contain recordings of tapped telephone conversations, demands for presidential favours and memos on terrorism suspects. hevill seek

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#### New anthrax has no cure

London: The Russian Federation has produced a genetically engineered variant of the anthrax bacillus which is resistant to all known antibiotics. Jane's publications said. News of the variant, developed in military research laboratories, was leaked by defectors. Anthrax, an infectious disease that normally affects animals, can be used as a biological weapon. (AP)

#### Godzilla's creator dies

Tokyo: Godzilia, the film monster, will live on despite the death in Tokyo of Tomoyuki Tanaka, 86, his creator (Robert Whymant writes). Tanaka produced the 1954 film which created the star of 22 movies. Roland Emmerich, the Hollywood director of Independence Day, has revived the monster for a new film to be released next year.

#### Mobutu men excluded

Kinshasa: Etienne Tshisekedi. Zaire's new Prime Minister. unveiled a cabinet with no associates of President Mobutu and with six ministries reserved for Laurent Kabila's rebels who control a quarter of the country. But a rebei official said they would not join Mr Tshisekedi's government. (Reuter)

#### Anger over **US** bases

Tokyo: A wave of anger swept Okinawa island as Japan's Government prepared to push through legislation to forcibly extend land leases for 12 American military bases (Robert Whymant writes). About 3,000 people are refusing to renew contracts to lease their land, part of that occupied by 40,000 Americans.

#### **Court stops** crucifixion

Sanaa: Yemen's supreme court approved the death sentence, by firing squad, on Mo-hammad Ahmad Misleh, 48, who shot and killed four schoolchildren and two of their teachers on Sunday, but overturned a lower court ruling that his body should be nailed to a cross. (Reuter)

#### Reprieve for fowl murder

Bangkok: Vichai Thongto, 30, of Ratchaburi province, was killed by a peacock, his pet for eight years. The Thai was feeding four caged birds when the sole male clawed his head, causing a blood clot. His family would have curried the peacock out of revenge, but were too fond of it. (AP)

# Taleban outlaws women and white socks

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS SOUTH ASIA CORRESPONDENT

SCHOOLS have reopened in Afghanistan after the winter break without a single female student or teacher. This latest affront to girls and women follows the introduction of a rule banning the wearing of white socks because they might be attractive to men.

Kite-flying, once popular in much of the country, has also been banned because the excitement might disturb men obeying the Taleban edict to pray five times a day. House windows have been painted black to stop women being seen from outside.

Paper bags have been outlawed because of the remote chance that

because of the remote chance that discarded pages of the Koran could end up in recycling bins and be turned into a bag. Socrer has been banned because it is said to be un-Islamic - possibly because men show their legs, although the reason has never been announced. The strict

regime is enforced by members of the Religious Police Force, who patrol the streets checking on women and reminding people of the latest regulations over loudspeakers. Photography and video players have been banned as un-Islamic, and women are no longer allowed to use the public baths—the only more to the public baths - the only means to have a bath for many women because of cramped living conditions.

No other Islamic country imposes such harsh regulations. Iran allows women to vote, work and hold seats in parliament. In Afghanistan, women and girls are essentially banned from doing anything except working in the home and

shopping.
They are whipped or jailed for violating the rules, which are invented by senior mullahs before being broadcast over Radio Shariat It is essential for people to listen regularly to the radio to keep up with the constant flow of orders.

schools), which teach them to recite the Koran by heart.

The United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) described the exclusion of women and girls from schools as an affront to human rights. Afghanistan was a "nation of widows". The 30,000 widows in Kabul were banned from wittows in Kabul were parined from working, except for a few who were allowed employment in designated hospitals. Kabul University, which used to have 4,000 female students, reopened late last month without female teachers or students. Taleban requires women to wear a voluminous veil. Even their eyes

wear a voluntations vent even their eyes are covered by a cloth mesh. Meanwhile, fighting is intensifying on two main battlefronts — one north of Kabul and the other in the west — as Taleban seeks to bring the entire country under its control. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees said Most mullahs in Afghanistan are illiterate graduates of madrussas (Islamic to neighbouring Pakistan. more than 250,000 people had been displaced since October. Many had fled





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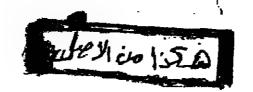
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# Albanian leader's family home gives wary welcome where eagles dare

IT MAY be some time before "At home with the Berishas" graces the pages of Hello! magazine. If Albania seems cut off from the Western world, then its far northeastern corner, birthplace of President Berisha and seat of his clannish family, is at a further remove.

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The high mountains all around. and harsh winters leave Tropoje largely isolated for four months of the year, and the flooding of the Black Drin valley - the maniacal hydroelectric legacy of Enver Hoxha, the late Communist dictator - means the only safe route of approach is by boat. Unless the President takes his helicopter, the 300-mile round trip from Tirana takes three days.



President Berisha's background may have given him a better start than most to face the hazards of leadership. Tom Walker reports from Tropoje

southern Albanians, he views the north with considerable suspicion - a faraway realm of mountain savages, from which few return. The winding track through the highland copper belt of Kushnen in north-central Albania brought him only punctures and bad memories. As the jagged edges of spent Kalashnikov cartridges ripped open his tyres, Peter looked down This place only for eagles," said at the mines where he had toiled for Peter, our taxi driver. Like most many of his 22 years as a political

prisoner. "We go back - now," he kept imploring. But we had missed the ferry, and spent nine hours on perilous hairpin bends overlooking sheer drops, Darkness had fallen and returning along a track that is notorious for banditry seemed inadvisable.

Our fortunes improved as Peter's badly bruised Mercedes limped into Bajram Curri, the only town of any description in the northeast. The local hotelier advised that

be preferable to his arctic rooms the hotel occasionally doubles as a area of suspicions and hostilities, mortuary - and we were taken to the home of Din Selimi, the town's surgeon.

In the morning, after checking up on an 18-year-old whose lungs, liver, kidneys and pancreas had been punctured by four bullets. Dr Selimi procured the hospital vehicle for us. An amalgam of French, Italian and Russian engineering known as a "Waz", it was the only means of transport - except donkey or on foot - to the President's

The Berisha farmstead shelters beneath the 7,000ft Mount Shkelzen. Just five miles east is the Morina pass into Kosovo, the Albanian-dominated region of Ser-

staying with a local family might bia where President Milosevic's tanks line the border. This is an where the ground floors of most houses have no windows - a precaution against the lingering blood feuds and vendettas.

Leading us into the courtyard. Dr Selimi pointed out eye-like slots in the upper floors of the massive stone house. "So you can shoot at Serbs, he explained.

A wizened elder in a white cap appeared, and we were led up an external wooden staircase to the guest room. They come here with good intentions," said Dr Selimi. The old man did not look convinced, but bade us sit down. He squatted opposite the fireplace, as more Berishas entered, including two border guards who laid their

Kalashnikovs by the door. The local raki liquor was ordered.

Zequir Islam Berisha said he was the best man of Mr Berisha's father, and had performed the ritual first cut of the infant's hair in 1944. "He was a very clever boy, quiet and fond of books," he said. recalling the President's habit of learning "between 50 and 100 new words each day" in French and Russian.

As Arben Berisha, son of the President's cousin, relilled the raki glasses, the President's praises were toasted from all sides: a great doctor, a noble and honest family, the right man to lead the nation. The Berishas present said their family numbered around 120, divided between Tropoje, Bajram Curri and Tirana, "The President

has not done any favours to his family. We live in the same conditions as other Albanians." said Arben's mother, Elmaze Berisha, briefly entering the room to expel some invading chickens. She said her husband and his brother had left for the capital 70 defend the family and the President". In the corner, a box was fixed six feet up a wall, where guests could place their weapons.

Zequir Islam Berisha and the guards glanced uneasily at our translator, a high-heeled southern girl making her first and probably last journey to Tropoje. "The tradition is that women should not take part in meetings, but things are changing," reflected the old man, nodding sadly, "Now that we're in

RICHARD BEESTON

# Kohl announces he will seek fifth term as Chancellor

FROM DEBORAH COLLCUTT IN BONN

HELMUT KOHL, the German Chancellor, has announced that he intends to stand for re-election next year after months of speculation that he was suffering from failing health and losing control over the spiralling economic problems that have

dogged him for the past year. During an interview to mark his sixty-seventh birthday yesterday, he made the announcement when asked if he wanted to run again. "A very clear yes," he replied. "I will stand again if my party and political friends want

There is no doubt that his Christian Democratic Union (CDU), and its Bavarian sister party, the Christian Social Union (CSU), will nominate him for the election, to be held at the end of 1998. Days earlier, party colleagues and friends, including Theo Wai-gel, the Finance Minister and CSU leader, publicly repeated their support. Political allies have been urging Herr Kohl to declare his candidacy early to put pressure on the opposition Social Democrats (SPD).

"There has never been any doubt that Herr Kohl is the chosen candidate of the CDU/CSU coalition," said a government spokesman in Bonn last night. "What we hadn't heard from the Chancellor was a definite indication that he would stand."

The statesman looked relaxed and cheery during the interview with the state ARD television station, filmed at a spa hotel in Bad Hofgastein. near Salzburg, where he and his wife, Hannelore, have spend their Easter holidays.

He beamed proudly as he declared his plan to run in an election that, should he win, would make him the longestserving government leader in Europe since the Second World War. After 14 years in power, he is already Germa-



him like an old uncle'

French poll 'early'

FROM SUSAN BELL IN PARIS

THE French legislative elec-tions, scheduled for next year, could be brought forward to as early as this June, according to

rumours in the French press

Many politicians among the centre-right ruling coalition are pressing for an early election in which they are confident of winning a comfortable majority. The proposal, which has been pushed privately by Jean-François Mancel, General Secretary of President Chirac's Gaullist RPR party, also has considerable support among followers of Edouard Balladur, the former Prime Minister. The ruling RPR and UDF parties have almost completed the selection of their 555 candidates, with just 30 exceptions. a feat they accomplished in

record time. While Alain Juppe, the Prime Minister, is not against the idea of moving the election forward, the Elysee Palace is said to be lukewarm about it. M Chirac has publicly rejected any idea of dissolving parlia-ment for "the sake of convenience". A source close to the President told the daily Liberation: "The French like to be consulted regularly, but do not like to have their familiar routines changed."

dramatically," Herr Kohl said A tough boss, he prefers the "hands-off" style of leader-

ship, leaving day-to-day politics to ministers and advisers. seeing himself rather as a statesman along the lines of the President in the United States or France. He rarely makes statements

ny's longest-serving postwar

Chancellor, reuniting the country in 1990 and defeating

four SPD challengers at the

polls. It is clear he is intent on

adding the launch of the euro

single currency to his achieve-

the euro in the general election

campaign - and I've heard

such noises from the Social

Democrats - campaigns against the unity of Europe and will lose this election

"He who campaigns against

ments before retiring.

in response to unemployment figures — creeping towards five million — to marauding miners marching on Bonn, or Bundesbank experts doubting Germany's ability to cut its deficit to fulfil the Maastrict treaty criteria. It is this "distanced" method

of governing that has brought success with voters. "Kohl doesn't stand alone -- be is the u system: Bahnsen, political correspondent for Die Welt newspaper. The Kohl system reaches far into the media, the economic and financial institutions of this land and into German life itself.

"Unemployment is too high .. but it is not a problem that affects the everyday lives of most Germans," he said. "For them there is only Kohl. The SPD is too aggressive, too provocative, too risky - they want what they know and they know Kohl, like an old uncle."

in a poll in yesterday's Stern magazine to find the person Germans most want as Chancellor, Herr Kohl beat all potential SPD candidates except Gerhard Schröder, the Premier of Lower Saxony and Euro-sceptic - who was ahead by 12 percentage points.

Leading article, page 21



Maria Pashinka, a faith healer, wields her crucifix like a sabre. She prescribed holy water to lift a supposed witch's curse on two men

# Black magic puts spell on rural Russia

TATYANA Kuleshova has only a hazy memory of the cold night in February when burst into her tiny home in Valvuki and tried to wipe out her family in a frenzied attack provoked by the ancient superstitions that still control life in rural Russia.

"All I can remember is that they broke in about midnight. There was shouting. Someone struck me again and again with a hammer. They were attacking my brothers and sisters, even the little ones. My mother was killed. It was madness," said the frail-looking Miss Kuleshova, 22. Two months after the attack, which left her with serious head and

leg injuries, she is still traumatised by the assault. Although the police arrested the two men, her former boyfriend and his cousin, the motive for the savage attack has split this farming community in the heartland of

Russia's fertile "black earth"

UKRAINE MOLDAVIA

region 500 miles south of Moscow where many on the former Lenin collective farm are swayed by age-old pagan suspicions and relieved that the family is too frightened ever to return home. Miss Kuleshova may look like any other peasant, but her attackers are convinced she is

"My husband was a good, hard-working and honest man until Tanka [Tatyana] put a spell on him and ruined his life," said Larisa Lebyodkina, wife of Aleksandr

Pagan superstitions and medieval notions of justice still hold sway among many Russian peasants, Richard Beeston reports from the remote village of Valyuki

Lebyodkin, one of the two accused. "She drove him to this ... There should be a law against witchcraft."
Mrs Lebyodkina's evidence sounds like some hideous description from an account of

medieval justice. Miss Kule-shova had for some time aroused the suspicions of the villagers. She was a loner and unmarried. She had a lazy eye. She frequently went to the woods by herself, and it was rumoured that she had a book on black magic at home. Early this year Mr

STAITED COMPLIAINING OF SEEINS strange creatures in the forest, with the head of a black dog and the torso of a young woman. Mr Gretsov claimed the beast's body was that of Miss Kuleshova

The men sought the advice of "Babka" Maria, the most powerful spiritual faith healer in the region. The former nurse's speciality is fending off the devil with religious incantations and the crucifix she wields like a sabre.

When the two men came to her, she diagnosed that a powerful curse had been placed on them and prescribed a treatment of holy water. Although they showed improvement, they neverthetective investigating the at-tack, said that the incident was the first of its kind since the

less decided one night to wipe out "that family of wizards". Gennadi Chekaldin, the de-

cousin Sergei Gretsov, who are undergoing psychiatric both worked as woodcutters, tests, but I can tell you that said. "They just believe in all this hocus-pocus. like everybody in the villages." The Russian Orthodox

Church is particularly worried about the development. During the years of Soviet rule. spiritual life was dominated by faith-healers and mystics. Now that the country is undergoing a period of economic and social upheaval, the Church is finding it difficult to reassert its role as the guardian of Russia's spiritual life. "We had a long period of total absence of spiritual education," said Father Ajeksandr Bulekov, a priest at the Moscow Patriarchate. "People have lost the understanding of what is good and bad, and that is why we see so many deviations in moral, private and sexual life. We are seeing a weakening of Christian

#### Mafia chief held over boy's killing Repriesel

Palermo: Italian police yesterday arrested a Mafia boss suspected in the kidnapping of the son of a Mafia turncoat and the killing of the boy whose body was dumped in a vat of acid, police said. Salvatore Gallina, 54, head

of the Mafia clan in Carini. was arrested near Palermo. the Sicilian capital, after several witnesses accused him of holding the li-year-old. Giuseppe Di Matteo, for a year and a half in an attempt to convince the boy's father not to co-operate with the judicial authorities. Gallina, on the run for several months, was found in a hideout near the

cemetery in Carini. The head of the Cosa Nostra, Giovanni Brusca, had ordered the kidnapping in November 1994 after learning that Santo Di Matteo had

become a state witness. Brusca ordered the boy's killing after learning that he had been sentenced in abstentia to life in prison for killing Ignazio Salvo, the Sicilian businessman, because of the testimony of Santo Di

Matteo. Brusca was arrested in May 1996 and indicated at the time that he was also willing to cooperate with the authorities. But he has yet to be granted

witness protection. Five other suspects were arrested earlier this year for the kidnapping and death of

# Swiss link jailed Salinas to drugs

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

SWISS prosecutors investigating the frozen funds of Raul Salinas de Gortari, the jailed brother of Mexico's former President, say they have linked him to the smuggling of "40 to 50 tons" of cocaine to the United States.

According to a letter leaked to the Miami Herald newspaper, the Swiss believe that Salinas, the brother of Carlos Salinas - Mexican President from 1988 to 1994 - "received enormous amounts of money for his help in connection to drug trafficking".

The letter, from Carla del Ponte, the Swiss Attorney-General, to her Mexican counterpart, is the first official indication of a drug connection to Mexico's former first

family. If proven, the allegations would be highly embarrassing to Citibank, which handled the Salinas accounts. and would also confirm widespread suspicions of high-level drug corruption in Mexico. They would also provide

ammunition to those in the US Congress who are pressing the Clinton Administration to punish Mexico for its slackness in the drug war. President Clinton is due to make his first official visit to Mexico next month. Rumours about Raul Sali-

nas's unexplained wealth have circulated since late 1995 when officials froze more than \$100 million in his accounts in banks in Switzerland, Germany, France and America.



Carlos Salinas: letter implicates brother

### Victory salute for war widows

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

THE tiny band of surviving Lot No I, the first plot of Hong Hong Kong war widows recently granted British pass-1841. ports were honoured yesterday by a special firing of the

colony's noon-day gun. Pulling the lanyard on the Hotchkiss three-pounder, built in Britain in 1900 and made famous by Noel Cow-ard's song Mad Dogs and Englishmen, was Jack Edwards, a veteran of the British defence of Hong Kong, who for years has been the widows'

Mr Edwards. 78, was invited to take part in this daily event by Jardines, Hong Kong's most venerable trading house, which sponsors the gun-firings at the harbour's edge from what is still called

Kong land sold at auction, in Mr Edwards had almost single-handedly forced the Home Office into the "Uturn" on the widows' and

wives' passports. "They should have given them in 1981." Mr Edwards said. "There were 56 ladies then. Now there are 29, 19 of them widows. It's shameful. These women's husbands gave their lives for Britain. That's their right of abode - they lie dead in the British war cemeteries

But Mr Edwards had enjoyed the day. "It's the first time I've ever fired a gun for pleasure. In anger, plenty of times during the war." Ac-

companying him were two Chinese veterans of the war, Albert Chen, of the Hong Kong Chinese Regiment, and Wang Hon-Lee, of the Hong Kong Volunteers. Both displayed their medals, including Burma Stars and Bars, and both wore Chindit ties from

the Burma campaign. Mr Chen, like all such servicemen, holds a British passport. His wife Loretta received hers last November. "I think we'll stay here," she said. "But now it will be much easier to travel." Mr Edwards was looking

forward to his next struggle. "Next it's the Japanese. They've got to make a full official apology ... for what they did in China in 1936."

#### Moscow 'allows torture'

BY MICHAEL BINYON

SYSTEMATIC and barbaric torture is still widespread in Russia with prison inmates abused, assaulted and even Amnesty International.

In a report released yesterday, the human rights organisation accused Moscow, which has signed the Convention against Torture. of passing legislation that contravened human rights standards and made violation easier. It said members of ethnic minorities were routinely beaten up by police, prisoners were used to ill-treat other prisoners, and doctors also were known to have co-

operated in torture. Detention often "amounted to torture". According to re-ports, prisoners died from overcrowding, lack of oxygen

and poor conditions. Amnesty said that on July 11 prisoners died of heat stroke in an overcrowded prison in Novokuznetsk. Up to 25 people were held in cells meant for ten, and air temperatures rose to 5IC (123.8F). An attempted mass suicide had taken place at the jail in the

previous year after beatings. "It is clearly within the power of Russian authorities to take immediate measures to eliminate these illegal practices," Amnesty said, calling for them to be made offences.

# Spanish town gives official blessing to incestuous couple

truth, they found it impossible to

part. "We led a double life fleeing

from Madrid to Alicante and from

there to La Coruña, pretending that

FROM GILES TREMLETT IN MADRID

A TOWN in northern Spain has decided to recognise love triangles and incestuous couples and give them the same rights as married couples. The town of Cambre has opened a

register where any "non-matrimonial unit" can place itself. Expected to put their names on the list are a brother and sister couple, Daniel and Rosa Maria Moya Peña, who live an openly incestuous relationship and have two children, "We are not interested in what people do behind closed doors, or what their sexual relationships might be," said

Augusto Rey, the Socialist deputy Madrid orphanage, discovered the mayor. "If they live together, than that is enough.

The Moyas will be able to apply for help with school transport, textbooks and out-of-school study programmes for their children. Cristina, II. and Ivan. 4, when they register. They say they have been accepted by the people of Cambre, a town of 15,000 in La Coruña province. The couple, who were brought up separately, say they met and fell in love 18 years ago without knowing they were brother and sister.

by his father in La Coruña. and

Rosa Maria, 42, who was sent to a

When Daniel, 38, who was raised

been fantastic. They have never looked down on us and the children have never had any problems at school," he added. The Moyas' incestuous relationship had helped to inspire the all-encompassing new register, Señor Rey admitted, Although Cambre's register, approved at Wednesday night's coun-

cil meeting, has legal effect only in

ples in a proposed new law was our children were our niece and nephew," Señor Moya told El Pais narrowly defeated in the national parliament by the centre-right Popunewspaper. "The people here have again next month. some have included homosexuals.

lar Party (PP) of José Maria Aznar. the Prime Minister, and its allies on March 18. The issue will be debated Many Spanish towns and cities have already opened de facto registers for unmarried couples, and

town hall matters, the Socialist denies it is encouraging either incest council hopes it will add to a or complex love relationships incouncil hopes it will add to a volving more than two people. national debate on common law marriage. A move by left-wing parties to include homosexual cou-

Señor Rey said: "If three elderly gentlemen who have decided to pool their pensions and live in the same house together want to register, then they can." He hoped that, if a common-law marriage were made legal, those who had registered would be able to use their dated entry to prove the length of their relationship in court.

PP councillors abstained in Wednesday night's vote. Jorge Trias, the party's parliamentary spokesman on social affairs, called the decision But no town has gone as far as Cambre, whose Socialist council

ake a stroll through the fashion-able, urban village of Barnsbury, an enclave of idiosyncratic Victorian squares, terraces and villas in the London borough of Islington and you cannot help but notice the healthy sprinkling of Vote Labour posters, adorn-

Turn into Richmond Crescent and the trickle of posters turns into a flood. While in the surrounding streets it averages toughly one in ten, in Richmond Crescent the rate jumps to 20 out of 36 houses. No I Richmond Crescent has two posters in the front window. This is to be expected because it is - for the time being the home of Tony and Cherie Blair, their children. Euan. 13, Nicholas, 11, and Kathryn, 8, plus a live-in nanny. Brenda McCormack, a crescent resident for 20 years, lives opposite No I and her poster display reflects the Blairs. She denies that the presence of the party leader and favourite for the next Prime Minister has stirred the crescent community into an ostentatious display of joyalty and support. "No. no. This is a street that has always had a lot of Labour supporters," she says. Likewise, City solicitor Kate O'Rourke, 37, who has virtually blocked out the light to her living room with a record-breaking four posters is adament that there has not been a "famous neighbour effect". "None whatsoever," she confirms. "I am actually

ing many a sash window.

a member of the Labour Party."

But there is more. Further down the street, a more expensive looking property has a mere single poster in the window.

This is the home of Margaret Hodge, the Tormer leader of Islington Council, cur-rently MP for Barking in east London. Likewise, Chris Smith, MP for Islington

South & Finsbury (majority 10,652) for

whom so many of the Richmond Crescent

residents are kindly advertising. Smith,

the Shadow Secretary of State for Health.

could soon become the first ever gay

politician to come out of the closet and get

Labour Party in 1994, Islington replaced

Hampstead and Bloomsbury as a metaphor for the leftish chattering classes and

the media went into a frenzy of specula-

tion over the emergence of the "Islington

Person". But many of the people living in

Richmond Crescent did not even know

When Blair was elected as leader of the

into the Cabinet.

# Voting for the man in the street Will Tony Blair's neighbours be supporting him in the general election? Julian Kossoff investigates



The Blairs' home, right, is not in the most chichi part of Islington, but in a quiet, pleasant street that is a bit tatty round the edges and home to a clutch of residents who criss-cross the social classes

who he was. "We had a street party several years ago and the Blairs came and they were a very friendly couple. People were saying 'Is that Tony Blair?' and others were saying 'Who is Tony Blair,' "
recalls Ms McCormack.

The Blairs moved into Richmond Crescent four years ago, arriving from nearby Stoke Newington where the "stripped pine brigade" reside if they cannot quite afford the "toppy" Islington prices. Thanks to the reputed £200,000 salary of Cherie Booth, QC, they were able to put the deposit down on a house that would now sell for £500,000. But Richmond Crescent is not the "elegant terrace" of hyped press reports, nor is it

the most chichi part of Islington. In terms of local status, it lags behind the prestigious Canonbury Square and the exquisite houses that line Grand Union Canal. Richmond Crescent is a quiet, pleasant street and an ideal place to bring up children, but it is also a bit tatty at the edges and home to a clutch of residents who criss-cross the social classes.

Indeed, the Blairs' view from their front window is of the peeling-paint facade of Angelo's Auto, owned by the eponymous gruff, middle-aged Greek, sporting a three-day growth. There are no political posters on the oil-stained walls of his small garage, where he bashes away at an old Astra, just a collection of pictures of

topless, pneumatic blondes. His friends call him "Mafia" and it would appear he has taken a vow of omerta. He has been in business on the street for 20 years.

Asked if he sees much of Mr Blair, he replies enigmatically: "I do my business and he does his." Has he ever worked on Mr Blair's car? "No, not yet," he says appearing somewhat put out that his famous neighbour has never called upon his services

Indeed, Mr Blair's family car could do with a bit of restoring. "A knackered old thing," is how Jim Wortley, 31, a designer who lives in a basement flar, describes the car. "He's quite a nice bloke actually," says Mr Wortley. "I often see him on a Sunday morning when I'm working on my MG and he always says hello."

Mr Blair's image as happy family man is accurate, says Mr Wortley. "It was really nice last year when I was coming back with the Sunday papers and reading about these massive sleaze stories, involving the Conservatives, and then I would see Mr Blair (after church) with his children piling into the knackered old Montego estate to go and play football or take them swimming." Mr Wortley says he voted Labour last time and will "probably" repeat the choice.

A few minutes later, Mr Wordey takes delivery of a pizza. Alan, the delivery man from Kings Pizzas in the nearby down-at-heel Caledonian Road, says he has delivered pizzas to the Blair household before. "I gave it to one of the boys."

"The boys" are the most obvious Blair family presence on the street. Frequently, they can be seen rollerskating or playing football in the street with the other local children. At one end the street, a wall has been converted into a goal with a chalk

outline for the posts and cross bar. "My brother plays with the kids, they get on well and just generally knock about the street together," says Lewellyn John, a 20-year-old studying natural sciences at Girton College, Cambridge, who has not

decided whom to vote for. He is home for the Easter break, walking his dog.

He has met Mr Blair only once. "It was early and I was wandering around in my dressing-gown. Mr Blair knocked on the door. I didn't even know who he was. His car had skidded on the ice and hit my mother's Peugeot and he wanted to report it, although there was no damage at all. I would have just driven off," said Mr John.

Opposition's limo. The Blair children are universally

popular. "They are just really nice kids," says Ms O'Rourke. Nor does she begrudge the Blairs' decision to abandon the local school system and send the boys to the grant-maintained London Oratory School in Fulham. "It is a matter of choice, isn't it?"

from his front door to the Leader of the

On the south side of the crescent, where the houses have been sub-divided into flats, many are still council-owned. "I am a Conservative at heart," says Stephen Flanaghan, 57, who is one of the most colourful characters of Richmond Crescent. He lives alone on a disability grant in one of the council flats, dabbling with a paintbrush and creating what we agree to describe as "libidinous art". He says the Blairs are nice people, but is less sure about Margaret Hodge. "She's never had any time for me really," he says.

A fervent monarchist with a huge picture of a young Queen by his bedside, he is also a supporter of a united Ireland. However, he has drawn up his own political poster and put it in the window. It reads "Vote for the Coalition Party". "I'd really like all the four parties (including the Greens) to work together," he says.

At the far end of Richmond Crescent.

outside a small block of purpose-built council flats, Negus Walters, 85, is standing in front of his rose bushes - "my little show". He is a Tory strategist's dream, a hard-working, working-dass man and a lifelong Conservative voter.

He is unimpressed by Mr Blair's efforts to modernise the Labour Party, "What I don't like about Labour is the unions, they

are still too strong." No For Sale sign has gone up alongside the election posters. But as Tony Blair ponders the possibility of moving from No I to No 10, he must be concerned about its impact on his family life after what appears to have been four very happy years in Richmond Crescent.

# FOUR MONTHS' FREE RHS MEMBERSHIP

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CHANGING TIMES

# Why I'm not backing Tony

Mr Blair's stock is high in Richmond Crescent. A couple of residents mention

"that grin" but give the impression that

when delivered in person on a sunny

Sunday morning it comes across as

genuine. Cherie Booth is more aloof, they

say. One female resident says: "You see

her swanning in and out, looking power-

ful." Mr Blair, meanwhile, is rarely seen

these days, apart from the quick dash

Richmond Crescent is a veritable fortress for new Labour. Not surprising, really, with the lord of the manor, Tony Blair, living at No L As if to underline his majesty, police are patrolling the little street 24 hours a day and imposing

tough parking restrictions.
The crescent is ideal new Labour territory - elegant. Victorian terraced housing. most of the occupants earn E30,000-E200,000; and au pairs and nannies a-plenty. To gild Tony Blair's escutcheon with some street credibility, there are even some working class families here. The only thing missing from this almost quintessential new Labour manor is a

Spice Girl or two. But just a few doors down from Mr Blair, I and a few other recusants have been plotting a jacquerie. Three lifelong Labour voters live in this house and one who will be going to the polls for the first time. The stirrings of revolt began a few weeks ago when one of us muttered that it was time to give the Monster Raving Loony Par-

Before long a council of war was held. Three of us agreed to jettison the habits of a lifetime and not voteMisha Glenny on the revolt just a few doors down the road ward march of new Labour. Middle-class, property owners, highly educated, congen-

ital opponents of the Tories,

yet all of us find Mr Blair's

style too patronising and his

programme unconvincing.

Are we an aberrant group of stick-in-the-muds? It is

possible that we represent a

psephologically insignifi-

cant sub-group of the chat-

tering classes. But we might be more substantial than

Labour. We are not staunch old Labour but the bornagain market evangelism of Tony Blair and Gordon Brown sticks in our gullets. We cannot square certain principled beliefs about the health service and state education with the Shadow Chancellor's obsession about holding down the basic rate of tax. If we wanted a Tory government, we would vote Tory.

I admit to feeling guilty ecause I am convinced that Robin Cook has the requisite wit and comning to make an excellent Foreign Secretary. But Mr Cook could not swing the council of war. Enough is enough. Our votes would go elsewhere.

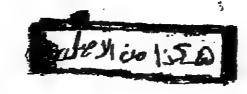
The first-time voter, less curmudgeonly cynical than her elders, remains undecided. No fan of Tony Blair's, she nontheless likes Chris Smith, our local MP. In an admirable display of civic responsibility, she intends to check out the other local candidates to see if they are deserving of her vote. We three elders should be

t the last election, people told the poll-sters that they would wote Labour and then voted Tory. It is possible that this time round, traditional Labour voters are saying that they will vote Labour and then won't be able to go through with it. But if not Labour, who? The Tories, I'm afraid, don't get a look-in. Apart from being seasomed enemies of the Tories, we all have personal reasons for wanting them out. I will have to wait many years before I recoup the £35,000 of negative equity acquired in the Tory boom years faithful retainers in the forrise in house prices barely

dents the losses I sustained. Lib Dems? Well, we all applaud their commitment to increasing tax to meet the costs of the public sector. The female elder, however, finds it impossible to vote for a party which boasts the antiabortion campaigner David Alton as a member. She believed her problem solved when Swampy announced his candidature on the Never Mind the Ballots Party. But his announcement was

an April Fool's jape.

One elder is voting Lib Dem. Following the Swampy debacle, the female elder, the most militant among us, has toyed with the heresy of returning to the Labour fold. This may well be Tony Blair's secret weapon — inertia triumphs because of the lack of a credible alternative. I will not vote Labour or Tory. Lib Dems remain the front-runners. But for the first time in an election, I intend to scrutinise every programme on offer - from local issues to the people who dress up as bunnies and penguins. May the best furry animal win. The author is a writer on foreign policy who occasionally foreign policy who occas votes in British elections



# When you're called Rupert Graves, you can't lose

The newest star of the West End on his unlikely journey from small-time circus clown to the Old Vic

here is a lot of snobbery in acting," Rupert Graves says. "and being called Rupert doesn't hurt." For a while, after his film debut as Helena Bonham Carter's sweet younger brother Freddie in A Room With A View, the cachet bestowed by "Rupert" brought stiff invitations to Sloaney parties in Fulliam.

People assumed he must be a scion of the poet Robert Graves's family. "I believe my brother was with you at Ampleforth," they would say. Whereupon Graves would remind them that he was at Wyvern Comprehensive, Weston-super-Mare. The lad has done awfully well since he left there at the age of 15 with one grade C in sociology. (So much for the contemporary insistence that there is no future for anyone without a fistful of grade As.) At least the school took him on a theatre trip to Bath, where he saw Warren Mitchell in Death of A Salesman, and thought, an actor's

He is having a great success in Peter Hall's first Old Vic rep season, in Hurlyburly, David Rabe's 1984 Broadway hit, a Mamet-like piece - fast, violent, funny, wisecracking. The opening night was theatrically historic. Eighteen minutes from the final curtain, Graves

THE **VALERIE GROVE** INTERVIEW

was in mid-speech when the stage manager rushed on stage and called the performance to a halt. The Old Vic was evacuated by a bomb scare. (Was this because the title Hurlyburly came from the Scottish play, Benedict Nightingale wondered.) The audience gathered, agog to know how it ended, on the grotty. wino-ridden Waterloo Road scrubland. So the cast bravely continued performing in the al fresco chill, sans props, shouting over the roar of passing buses. They deserved their standing ovation.

"It was bizarre, surreal." Graves says. He has been fighting flu ever since.

He is a gamin figure, his chin stubbled from "exhaustion and laziness". A pack of Camels reposes on the table. Graves had cut down to six a day until this play, but Eddie
- a man fuelled by alcohol and cocaine - is a heavy smoking part "A consuming part, in every sense." Never tried coke himself? "God, no!" he shouts.

As a boy he learnt comic music-hall monologues (from his musician father, who taught piano) and hung out with a punk crowd on the less genteel side of the seaside town. At school he was "useless, inattentive, resisting, tired. I just found growing up very tiring. I was a moony boy, day-dreaming, often ill - glandular fever, lots of colds."

The local jobcentre had no acting jobs to offer. The nearest thing was a YTS apprenticeship with a small, old-fashioned travelling circus which had come to town and lost its clown. "I became Weedy the Clown in a purple suit. I used to hate circus clowns as a kid - silly. painful, overgrown fools." He said he has tried to write about his circus experience but there aren't many personal dynamics in a circus: everyone just huddled in their caravans

every night". To go from the circus, via Butlin's at Skegness, to a short film, the kind that wins leading role at the king's awards and gets bought by Head Theatre in Islington French television and makes seems a fantastic leap of luck. But the director Dan Crawford remembers that when 18-year-old Graves arrived to audition as Kenneth Grahame's unhappy son (who put his head on the railway track) in The Killing of Mr Toad, "he was leagues ahead of all the others".

Natural aptitude, and brown-eyed charm, took him swiftly into the West End, and the National, and into roles such as the highly strung poet Marchbanks in Shaw's Candida. When Celestia Fox cast him as Freddie Honeychurch in A Room With a View, he says he blushed with terror throughout and they had to dub out the Somerset ("hote-win for hotel) in his accent.

"I thought I was so bad. I said to James Ivory: 'I'm so sorry. I've messed the whole film up, and he said: 'It's all right, your part's not big enough to mess the whole thing up."

in another E.M. Forster film. Maurice. he played Scudder the gamekeeper, who climbs into Maurice's bedroom and seduces him. He seemed to be habitually offered sexually ambiguous roles - because of being pretty? I think there was a fashion for gay roles," he says, "and once I'd done Maurice and Torch Song Trilogy well, people are very unimaginative, aren't they?"

At 33, he enjoys domestic contentment in a small rented flat in Stoke Newington with his girlfriend Yvonne, a mature student reading history. "When I'm in a play she turns into an orphan. I just crash out the quiet. I'm learning my lines'." He said he was a loafer by nature. "I loaf in the local park with my greyhound Roland, as in Rat [he was named by the RSPCAL We loaf together."

A busy sort of loafer. Ever since 1982 he has popped up all over the place: in the mud as Lysander in Robert LePage's extraordinary Midsummer Night's Dream; as sexy Onto in Sean Manhias's Design for Living: as the loyal equerty Greville in The Madness of King George; as the transvestite David/Davina in the televised drams of the Stephen Waldorf shootings; as the wretched son of Jeremy Irons in Louis Malle's Damage.

ast year alone, he was brilliantly cast against type as Huntingdon in The Tenant of Wildfell Hall, appeared with the RSC in Les Enfants du Paradis, and also made five films, three still awaiting release. I asked what they were about. He laughed. Dangerous question. Actors always say: It's about me. I'm this butler . . . . In Intimate Relations, he is

Harold Guppy, a violent, spineless lodger involved with his landlady. Julie Walters. In Different For Girls, he's a wastrel motorbike messenger who takes up with an old schoolfriend who has changed sex. In Mrs Dalloway he is the shell-shocked Warren shell-shocked Septimus Smith. "I'd never read any Virginia Woolf before, but the more I looked into her life the more I loved her. A dot on the wallpaper can open up whole worlds.\*

His diffidence about discussing roles in literary terms - "I shy away: I feel so uneducated" - makes the intelligence of his performances the more striking. In Hurlyburly he plays Eddie, a casting director "whose house in the Hollywood Hills has become a viper-pit of dysfunctional divorced men who bitch about women, play power games and behave very badly. Eddie watches his friendships disintegrate, which of course sends him batty. But the themes are so neatly woven, it's like trying to explain an

embroidered shawl." He now wants to write a

SECTION TWO

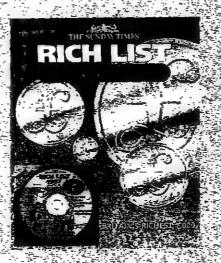
Pop on Friday: the Chemical Brothers rebuild rock - page 33



Rupert Graves: brown-eyed gamin charm, with a hint of stubble on the chin he puts down to a mixture of "exhaustion and laziness"

THE SUNDAY TIMES

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THE SUNDAY SUNDAY TIMES IS THE

# Why should we thank the Tories?

The economy still has structural

flaws, says Tessa Blackstone

t would be very surprising if the British economy were not doing quite well at present. We are at the most favourable part of the economic cycle. the last recession several years astern, unemployment falling and with little sign of inflation picking up. The Tories are naturally anxious to take full credit. In effect, they say: "Look, it's a wonderful dawn, aren't we clever?" The electorate, however, is unimpressed. Experience has taught that night tends to follow day. And even if the crowing of the cock marks the dawn, no one thinks the bird is responsible.

The Government cannot complain if the voters do not give it credit. No one can recall Messrs Major, Clarke and Heseltine campaigning in 1992, in the midst of recession, on the siogan "It's all our fault". The recession was a global phenomenon, we were assured; everyone in the world was suffer-ing: the British Government was not responsible. That our recession was much worse than that in most other countries

was not acknowledged. Even now, the efforts to take credit are hilariously selective. Inflation? The lowest in years; no mention of its being among the highest in Europe. Growth?

The Tories

care about

investment

only if it

is foreign

Faster than almost anywhere else in Europe, we are told; no mention of its being unimpressive historical

There is justice in the public scepticism. Ken Clarke's sound macroecon-

omic judgments" were forced on the Government, kicking and screaming, by the failure of its exchangerate mechanism policy. Mr Major entered at the wrong rate, as Labour said at the time, ignored the effect of German reunification, and then spent billions of pounds in a vain attempt to avoid

humiliating ejection. Taxation policy has also been a shambles. It is normal for interest rates to go up and down, but the Tories' fiscal yoyo is a sure sign of incompetence. If cutting income tax election was justified, how can it have been right to have been putting so many taxes up just 12 months before? The Government had a massive fiscal blow-out before the 1992 election -- courtesy of Chancellors Major and Lamont - which eventually drove public borrowing to nearly £50 billion a year, just under 8 per cent of gross domestic product. Twenty-two tax increases followed the election. The last lot were barely on the books before Mr Clarke changed tack again in

November 1996. And there is no escape in looking at a longer perspective. The outstanding feature of 18 years of Tory macroeconomic policy has been instability. Our economy has been twice as unstable as Germany's over the past 20 years and one and a half times as unstable as those of the US, Japan and Italy. Britain has spent longer in recession than other developed nations. We have had two massive recessions, which destroyed about a quarter of our industrial capacity, and a reckless consumer boom in between based on

exploding asset prices. The

last time the people were regaled with talk about an economic renaissance was in the Lawson boom. They ended up facing soaring unemploy-ment and negative equity on their houses.

This time the recovery is more modest, partly because the public is cautious. They have learnt their lesson. They will save more, borrow less and not believe what they are told by ministers. Polls show that people's expectations are low. They know that beneath the massaged unemployment statistics the reality is of only slow growth in employment, still not back to pre-recession levels after five years of "recov-ery", and that half the new jobs are part-time, temporary and low-paid.

No one thinks this unimpressive recovery could be safely accelerated by more government spending or by easy money. Labour has ac-knowledged that with the Government still borrowing heavily there can be no overall increase in public expenditure. But the Tory reforms have totally failed to strengthen Britain's productive potential. Even now, the recovery is consumer-led, with overall in-

vestment hardly growing at all, and investment in manufacturing actually down by 9 per cent in 1996. The Government seems to care about investment only when it is foreign. It is the persistent neg-lect of domestic in-

vestment that has

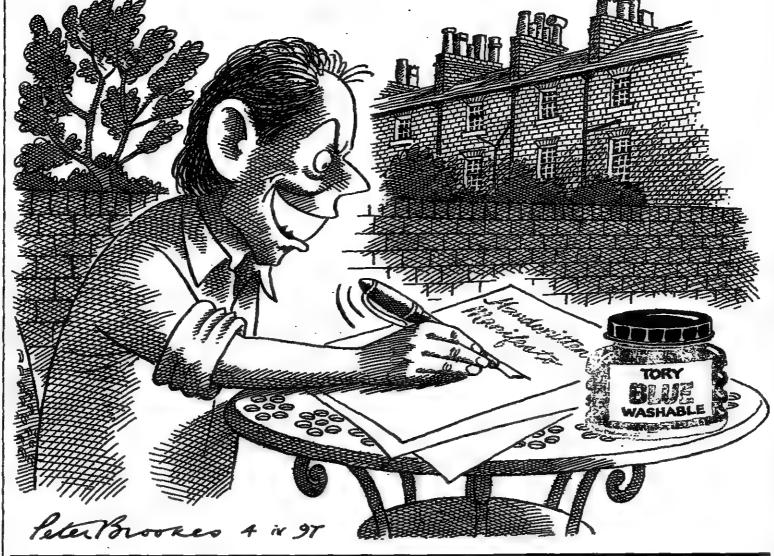
undermined the country's productive base. No wonder that while the Tories crow about consumer-driven growth, the City and the Bank of England fret about inflation and higher interest rates. With more than 1.6 million unemployed, could there be moreeloquent testimony to the en-feebled state of the supply side

of the economy? .

That it shows is that all the labour market "reforms", all the privatisations, all the starvation of public services and growth of inequality have achieved in aggregate nothing that can be measured, no increase at all in our sustainable growth. The real, deep structural weaknesses in the British economy have been missed and allowed to fester: our inadequate training, our relatively declining research and development, our élitist educational system that neglects half our people, our high real interest rates and our shortterm management, which result in inadequate investment As the Commission on Public Policy and British Business summarised it, to the fury of Michael Heseltine, Britain has "too many inefficient and poorly run companies; too many underachieving people; too little investment in re-

search innovation and physical capital". That is the real indictment of Conservative economic policy. Tackling those structural weaknesses will be the task of the next Labour government. Labour's policies will be driven by the need to increase investment in industrial capacity, in people and in ideas. Baroness Blackstone is a Lab-

our spokesman in the Lords.



# No Labour sleaze — yet

oho is becoming more gay, in both senses. The area is less sleazy than in days when heterosexual dip-joints and dirty cinemas set the scene. Now Soho is dominated by coffee bars and bistros, and a more cheerful, stylish, above-board atmosphere prevails. Casually dressed young men, their hair slightly too clean and their clothes slightly too cool — men who take a little more trouble with their appearance than a man ought queue for their cappuccinos or promenade in groups and pairs. So far from being furtive, this crowd is there

A few hundred yards away, just off Trafalgar Square and not a mile from the Houses of Parliament, is a bar more representative of the half-submerged homosexual scene of the old London. It is in a basement. Its name is Brief Encounter. The atmosphere here — noisy and sweaty — is conducive to encounters of a rather casual, if close, kind. You would not call the venue hidden, but while opera-goers from the Coliseum ambling past the entrance on a warm evening in early spring might sense the heat and bustle below the street, Brief Encoun-Once out onto the pavement, many of its customers aim to slip, unnoticed,

into the night. It was on such an evening not many weeks ago that I was walking with a friend along St Martin's Lane. Near the entrance to Brief Encounter we ran into someone who is known to me. He is quite a senior Labour MP. a married man. He was with a friend,

a man whom we also both know. We exchanged greetings. The Labour MP, a good man who knows he can trust me, seemed distracted. "We've just had a rather unpleasant moment in Brief Encounter . . . " he began. His friend silenced him. The implication was clear. My friend and I moved to silence him too. We sensed without speaking that even among friends there are things best not disclosed unless there is a reason, because what we do not know we need not conceal. I had no wish to know. And even if I did, nothing - no

principled argument about gay rights, no desire to ingratiate myself with Conservative Central Office, no offer of money from a tabloid newspaper . . . no, not even a million pounds, not even an argument for self-preservation — would induce me to tell anyone the Labour MP's name.

There are three reasons. First, because I do not disapprove of his behaviour. It might have been There are lots of sticks with which to beat the Blairites, but who wants to know?

foolish, but the world is a strange place and, trapped by circumstance, people behave strangely. I am disinclined to judge. Second, because, even if one did disapprove, to tell others and especially the sensationalist press — would be dishonourable. For readers of The Times that hardly requires elucidation.

Either of these arguments alone would seal my lips. Together they are unanswerable. But there is a third reason to reject any idea of trying to purvey this tittle-tattle. Few would Want to buy it.
A tabloid editor might, I suppose

toy with the idea of running the story on an inside page, if only (given all the Tory stories) to cre-ate a half-hearted impression of balance; but a moment's thought sug-

gests it would be an sleaze" is not the flavour of the hour. The press are hardly interested in it. Peregrine Worsthorne, writing this week in London's Evening Standard, says: "It is difficult to believe that there are not some Labour politicians around who could be exposed if the Tory newspapers were really trying. Are they trying, and, if not, why not?

In my view, they are not trying . . ." And of course there is Labour sleaze. Journalists who follow these affairs, reading of my chance meeting in St Martin's Lane, will turn their minds immediately to half a dozen or so Labour MPs: the usual suspects. I must tell them that my friend was none of these. The Commons is full of surprises. As for the heterosexual side of things, where there is life there is adultery; and, despite appearances,

there is life in new Labour.
There is financial scandal there, too, though I suspect rather less than among Conservatives. It is in local government that Labour sleave outstinks the Tories, and there are some shocking local government stories in the air at present. Local govemment is always a turn-off for the national press, but in this atmo-sphere of heightened electoral tension nothing would be easier than to invite Tony Blair to show what he would call "leadership" by condemning or expelling alleged miscreants — and

then make an issue of his response. Let me share a secret with you: the British press is unlikely to bother. Consciously in some cases, unconsciously in others, nobody is looking for a stick with which to beat the Labour Party, though plenty of sticks lie around us. Just imagine, for instance, that it was John Major who had first challenged Tony Blair noisily and repeatedly to a televised debate. Imagine then that, to everyone's surprise. Blair had accepted. Suppose then that, after a week's argy-bargying. Major had withdrawn, even though

Blair was finally prepared to accept terms. Think how contemptuously the press would have presented Major's running away! "Any place, any time!" I ask you!

The Labour leader's

the very debate he has been shouting for, is the sort of unseemly spectacle at which the dogs of the press and their cartoonist friends could bark and snap for days, all across their front pages, were they disposed to. They are not disposed to. I find the response of the British media to the Blair-Mandelson cop-out - a response which has ranged from an amusedly raised eyebrow on the inside pages to complete silence - quite

Some in the press do feel uncomfortable about this, but not many and not very. In much the way Tony Blair has begun to talk about the reforms of the 1980s as though "the Eighties". rather than a group of Conservative women and men, had enacted those reforms (so that to challenge them would be "going back on the past" end of argument), so journalists pre-fer to see themselves as reporting the news, rather than making it. There is a weird tendency among newspaper-men to describe the operation of their own judgment as though it were a phenomenon of nature, rather than the exercise of personal choice. Thus, a colleague may remark, "I don't think that Labour sleaze story has legs". This is media-speak for "the story will soon disappear from the newspapers". But why will it disap-

pear? Only if we stop putting it there

will it disappear. Stories have no legs but the legs we give them. "I doubt whether this is a story," one may hear. This means "I doubt if my editor wants to make it a story". It is as though the journalist wished unconsciously to airspray himself, and his own role, out of the picture; as though we lived in a world where "stories" were almost physical entities, born to live, thrive, languish and die as flesh-and-blood creatures do: and we were only the midwives and undertakers, watching, taking photographs and writing it down, as nature, relentless, pittless and un-

swerving, takes her course. Are we scared of ourselves, we in the media? Are we ashamed of our own power, embarrassed by our influence, nervous at the hands we hold to the very windpipe of those whom we suffer to live or die? Are we afraid that if our role were to be fully described and properly acknowledged. we might be brought to account? Do we lie awake at night, having penned our glorifications or vilifications of those elected politicians who claim the democratic right to govern, and wonder what democratic legitimacy attaches to our own part in that what "standards in public life" might

be applied to our own lives? n the end, we take refuge in numbers. Millions, we muse, choose to buy our paper or switch on our programme. No-body forces them to. Their choice

reflects confidence in . . . In what? How can they know what is going on, when they have only our word for it? How can they choose, when we, as a media pack, simply foilow each other around, barking? Are we made in our readers' image, or are they reflecting ours? Or is it a hall of mirrors, reflections of reflections. echoes amplifying echoes, rising and dying according to laws we cannot

There will be no Labour sleaze in this election. The media have com-manded it. The election will then return a Labour government. The media will then declare that the people have spoken, and the media have spoken for the people. After that, there will be Labour sleaze. The media will command it. Their ven-

geance will be terrible. So I say to my brief encounter in St Martin's Lane, and to some of his friends: from May 2, watch out, What they will do to you will be as unfair as what, to your evident satisfaction, they are now doing to the Tories.

### Fury of an inquisitor scorned

**Nicholas** 

Wapshott on

Paxo's outburst

the stalwarts of the Garrick Club bar may rue the day they blackballed Jeremy Paxman when they read the interview with him in today's New Statesman. For in his withering remarks about John Major, Labour worthies and the way the BBC runs things, he has shown that he is undoubtedly one of them. forthright, opinionated and indiscreet. It comes as no surprise, perhaps, to discover that Paxo is at heart a young curmudgeon, since he has built his reputation on bullying politicians on Newsnight and harrying stammering students on Univer-

sity Challenge.
But who would have thought he would be so rash as to blow off steam in print at this stage of the election? Kingsley Amis, in his Lucky Jim phase, might well have said. One of the problems is that the English have this obsession with looking back. The rural idyll was out of date when rural idyll was out of date when Baldwin talked about it and ludicrous when Major did. Warm beer, old folk cycling to Communion, cricket on the village green — all that bollocks that the Tory conference did three years ago." But Amis would not have added, as Paxman did, "Don't use the upper bollocks."

use the word bollocks." And you can hear the Amis of The Old Devils saying "Of course I get impatient, and sometimes I'm afraid let it show. One shouldn't really. But it's very difficult to remain calm when you're listening to someone talk com-plete bollocks." Not to mention "Wonderful to see all these people getting their snouts in the trough, isn't it? I mean the new Labour aristocracy. Why are we supposed to be-lieve that filling the Lords with a few hand-picked placemen and women is more democratic than having a bunch of hereditary peers?"

There is more. All those who have

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grouned at the Dimbleby brothers' monopoly of election-night television will nod at Paxman's complaint. "It is part of the constitution in this country that all major events have to be presented by a Dimbleby." And he needs little prompting to bite the hand that feeds him. Answering John Birt's criticism of him as "sneering". he replies to the BBC's Director-General: "Incredulity, scepticism maybe. But sneering I don't like."

But if Pauman's strength is his ability to ask the pointed questions, to treat politicians as hostile witnesses in the dock and, on being fobbed off, to give the incredulous slow burn to camera which Dame Edna reserves for a double-entendre, it is also his weakness. Politicians are usually so keen to get on television that they will risk all sorts of indignities, even a rough ride with Pexman. But with May I looming they may just say no. In the old days, when the term spin-doctor" meant nothing more sinister than a Sadler's Wells physio-therapist, Wilson. Heath and Callaghan obeyed the taxi-rank rule and took who they were given. Margaret Thatcher changed all that, as she changed so many other things. She traded Robin Day for Jimmy Young and later, in her bunker years, she would grant audiences only to those she knew would temper their polite probing with some quiet fawning. David Frost and Alastair Burnet were both gentle with her; coincidentally both were knighted by her. Arise

Sir Jeremy? I don't think so. The only exception to this rule is the Today programme and its hosts James Naughtie and John Humphrys. Despite breakfast television, the Radio 4 flagship still sets the tone of the political day. And while both Humphrys and Naughtie have, like Brian Redhead before them, been accused, on air, of political bias, they are protected by the power of their audience. Take too many liberties with that nice Mr Naughtie, such a reassuring friend when introducing those lovely live opera relays, and half of Middle England will hit you

over the head with their umbrellas. But if this is a difficult time for politicians to be interviewed, it is also a difficult time to be an interviewer. Paxman has had his three bites at the cherry, interviewing each party leader in turn. Major tried to ingratiate: Blair blanched; and Ashdown very nearly leapt out of his chair and punched him on the nose for impertinently dismissing his party as a waste of time. But that is the election as good as over for Paxo. Thanks to good media management by the par-

ties, he won't get a fourth bite.

Instead on election night, as he told Mary Riddell, the man who asks the questions the licence-fee payers would like to ask will be "sitting in a little new at the side of the little new at the littl little pen at the side of the studio" watching Dimbleby major take the limelight. It is an odd use of resources. Would a major American network waste such a popular asset in this way? (And would a major American media star put up with it?) But wait. The good electors of Tatton are looking for an honest, upright, non-partisan champion to stand as the anti-sleaze candidate against Neil Hamilton. The stainless candidate must be fiercely articulate and fearlessly frank, the Gilbert Harding of our time. A thorough knowledge of the frailties of politicians and

an ability to cut through the verbiage

# Uncertified

LIKE certain dotty old men, the Referendum Party behaves with a deranged logic. When it decided to send out millions of copies of a promotional video, it did not count on thousands of them being sent

back. Cue operational melidown.

The week before last, 2,000 videos were returned to the party's Westminster headquarters in a single day. Sackloads arrived by the hour, either because the addresses no longer exist, or with abusive messages from ungrateful

As the mail men sweated, the flood of videos spilt out of the mailroom into the corridors. "Cripes," thought party officials, "what if fierce, super-efficient Sir James Goldsmith sees this?" So they called a crisis meeting with Royal Mail and the mailshot company in Bedford, It was agreed that the Royal Mail would forward all returned videos to the Bedford company, where they now sit in a

warehouse.
"The Referendum Party has advised us not to dicuss sensitive political matters," says the mailshot company, BTB Mailflight.

Bernard Shrimsley, the Ref-erendum Party's chief press officer was more forthcoming. When you consider that well over a million videos have been sent out so far, the returns have been infinitesimal," he says confidently. We will be redistributing the returned videos." And so the cycle begins again.



"I want to report a

• With fears of a hosepipe ban once again making news, grounds-men at Aintree are working overtime to get the course ready for Saturday's Grand National. In the 48 hours before the race, the parched course will be saturated with more than 200,000 gallons of

#### Money talks

LITERARY talk is that Louis de Bernières, author of the tremendous Captain Corelli's Mandolin. has been approached by Trans-world Publishing for a two-book deal worth £350,000.

He may yet nudge the whopping 5500,000 achieved by Maxtin Amis last year. Decidedly reluctant with the facts, but unable to deny the gossip, de Bernières says: "My agent will kill me. I have had plenty of lunches recently. Transworld is just one of many . . . you will just have to wait and see."

#### **A'leaping**

FROM his comfortable billet in the lush South African suburb of Constantia, Earl Spencer has taken matters in hand at Althorp, his family's Northamptonshire home.



He has ordered estate agents to sell five more ancestral titles to raise money to restore the house where he (and Diana, Princess of Wales)

When faced with a £200,000 phumbing bill last summer, Spen-cer simply sold five titles, including the lordship of Wimbledon - which sold for £171,000 on its own, hoosted by contrived speculation about Boris Becker's interest.

This time round, Spencer is offering the lordships of Wandsworth. Battersea and others, including that of Lower Boddington. As he said last time: "Frankly there are so many of these titles that I'm not going to miss the ones

• All traces of Labour's gnarled old image were expunged from the

manifesto released yesterday. For one illustration, designers had planned to use a picture of an earthy couple buying apples at their local market. Shadowy advisers vetoed the picture and replaced it with Mr and Mrs Middle-Class picking at shelves in a gleaming Supermarket — which is where new Labour voters shop.

#### **Bonkers**

THANKS for the latest supermarket bonkbuster go to Soka Gakkai, the lay organisation of Nichiren Diashonin's Buddhism.

Julia Stephenson, aged 32, the daughter of a Surrey-based furniture tycoon and a former girl-friend of Dame Barbara Cart-land's grandson, Viscount Lewisham, claims that it was the Buddhist group that inspired her to write Pandora's Diamond, a book about one middle-class woman's escape into the Eurotrash and carciofo mushroom set.

"Desperation, and the fear of an entry in The Guinness Book of Records as the oldest virgin in hist ory." the book promises, lead Pan-dora "to feng shui, an ancient science which enables her to take control of her destiny."

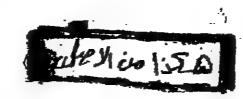
Lord Lewisham will make an ap-



Julia Stephenson

pearance in the book, but Miss Stephenson, like her heroine, is no lingering romantic. T've written much more about his house than about him. It's so much more interesting."

P·H·S | would be an asset If only the Newsnight Strangler were available.



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#### LABOUR'S DAY

A summary of the new: an opportunity for more

It is tempting for journalists to say that Labour's manifesto, published yesterday, contained "nothing new". Unlike the Tories" offering, there were only a few, minor policies that had not been trailed and published in advance. Nowhere in its 40 pages of small print do the words "socialist" or "socialism" appear -- but then that was an absence that we have all been long schooled to expect.

Yet, there is danger of observing the tenets of daily journalism and missing the march of political history. Unlike the Conservatives, Labour does not need to add glearning new nuggets of policy in a bid to recover support. What Labour did yesterday was to produce a manifesto which fully represented the changes that the party has already made to itself.

The party's last remaining nationalising commitment, to restore the railways to public ownership, has been quietly dropped between the draft manifesto last year and now. Its long-held belief in taxing the rich more heavily has been replaced by a promise not to increase the top rate of income tax. The transformation is not total. Labour is still agreeing to meet union demands for recognition at the workplace, signing the social chapter and introducing a minimum wage. These policies now look rather musty next to the shiny new vision for the rest of society. But even these are a powerful dilution of the promises that John Smith made to his paymasters.

The most welcome conversion is to the understanding that public spending is not the solution to all problems. In the past, even as recently as 1992, Labour believed that poverty could be alleviated simply by raising the level of social security benefits by a few pounds a week. Now the party accepts that gaining work and financial independence is a far better route out of deprivation than depending on the State. In education, too, Tony Blair now admits that much can be done to improve standards without spending money: grading pupils in sets by subject instead of teaching classes of mixed ability would, for example, improve levels of achievement at both ends of the spectrum.

Mr Blair made much yesterday of the question of trust. Labour suffers doubly from this problem. Because of its past record in government, there is a reluctance to trust it with power. And because of the Tories' recent record in government, there is a reluctance to trust any party's promises. Hence the modesty of Labour's election pledges and Mr Blair's "guiding rule" not to promise what we cannot deliver; and to deliver what we promise."

If Mr Blair wins, and he does achieve what he promises to achieve - mainly small-scale, incremental reforms - then he must calculate that he will be able to put to rest some of the public's suspicions about Labour in particular and about politicians in general. This manifesto, therefore, is very

much one aimed at securing a second term. There is a danger that, in its very tentativeness, it will make life harder for Mr Blair should he win power. The manifesto contains promises of no fewer than ten "reviews", two "consultations" and two "commissions". It is all very well to be told that Labour plans to review pensions, or child benefit for 16 to 18-year-olds, or vehicle excise duty (voters, please note) but it goes only halfway. The electorate has a right to choose between two different reforms of pensions, not between one detailed proposal and the prospect of a review under another

It is understandable that Mr Blair should be cautious about putting down concrete proposals which will create some financial losers. But he is far ahead in the polls; he ought to feel safe in taking that risk. If he ducks it today, he can expect far more difficulty if and when he needs to take unpopular decisions in government. Now is the time for him to look to his mandate as

#### **CHAMPION OF EMU**

#### Chancellor Kohl goes on and on towards monetary union

The decision by Helmut Kohl to stand again as Chancellor of Germany closes off one of the easiest, if least plausible, escape routes for British policy towards Europe - the possibility that Germany would simply lose interest in creating a single currency and a federal Europe. So identified has Herr Kohl become with the push for economic and monetary union that many opponents of the enterprise believe that it is only his political dominance in Germany that is keeping EMII alive.

In truth, his decision to stand again is more personal and more parochial. Having already held office for longer than any postwar German leader, he is now preoccupied with ensuring that his achievements do not unravel. He wants his place in history to end on a note of triumph. For him, that means the successful conclusion of the policies to which he has devoted himself so single-mindedly: European integration, the anchoring of Germany in Europe, preventing the mark from being seen by neighbours as an instrument of German domination and extending the zone of Western security beyond Germany's borders.

Herr Kohl also wants another term for his Christian Democratic-led coalition. This, he believes, can be ensured only if he is there to lead it. The likelihood, fuelled by rumours of family entreaties for him to retire, is that he would leave office halfway through his next term. This would enable him to install his nominee as successor - most probably Wolfgang Schäuble, the sharp-minded, and hard-working but wheelchair-bound CDU

parliamentary leader. The Chancellor has just received a renewed pledge of loyalty from Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister and leader of the

Bavarian sister party, the CSU. He has quelled a potential tax revolt among his disaffected Free Democrat coalition partners. He appears fit despite earlier rumours of health worries. And his domination of his party and his country is unquestioned.

Nevertheless, he faces serious political risks. With more than four million unemployed, growing industrial militancy. worries about German competitiveness and the chasm still between east and west Germany, the mood is turning against Herr Kohl. Many Germans have still not realised that their welfare system has become unaffordable and that annual improvements in living standards may be a thing of the past. They do not understand why Herr Kohl is quietly attempting to make the CDU more like a cost-cutting, free-market conservative party and less a vehicle of the "social dimension" that brought it working-class

Herr Kohl may reckon that the opposition Social Democrats still show no grasp of changed realities nor ability to pick a leader with the nerve and ruthlessness to challenge the Chancellor. But that may not insulate the CDU coalition from voter weariness with the same Government year after year. Neither does it guarantee that the electorate will continue to support a policy as unpopular as monetary union just because the Chancellor has made it his own.

When Herr Kohl made his birthday announcement he had no thought for the British elections and the problems of our parties in agreeing a policy on Europe and the single currency. But the single currency will also be central to Germany's elections next year. His greatest ambition may yet prove to be Herr Kohl's undoing.

#### IN THE BLOOD

#### Some families will be fortunate in the next Parliament

Hereditary peers may be an endangered species if Labour is elected. The hereditary Member of Parliament stands ready and willing to take their place. Earlier this week we reported on the candidacies of Anne and John Cryer, widow and son of Barry, the late MP for Bradford South. Today, we note the campaigns of Elizabeth Peacock and her son Jonathan, who are fighting adjacent constituencies in Yorkshire.

It is almost impossible for both pairings to succeed and rather difficult for just one. Labour's majority must reach 101 to elect the Cryers. A Tory majority of 127 would be required to endorse both Peacocks. A hung Parliament would be enough to dispose of both of them. But other family connections are likely to be more fortunate. There are no fewer than 14 examples of candidates closely related to other candidates in this election.

The Bottomleys and Wintertons were the only married couples in the Parliament just ended. There is every chance that there will be three others if Margaret Ewing, Alan Keen, and Rhodri Morgan are all joined by their partners. A Labour majority would see Ann Keen enter the House not just with her husband but her sister, Sylvia Heal, as well. Pergus Ewing currently has a wife in Westminster and his mother, Winnie, in the European Parliament. The Eagle sisters -Labour's Angela and Maria - seem certain to serve together.

Parliamentary dynasties are not unusual, of course. The Astors, Cavendishes, Chamberlains, Cranbornes, Churchills, and Lloyd Georges have dominated British politics in this century. This contest will be the first for nine decades in which the electors of Southend West will not be offered a member of the Channon clan. In the past, though, son succeeding father was usually the order of the day. Married couples, and sisters, were extremely unusual. The combination of relationships available this time has never been matched before.

A greater mystery is why these special sets of families feel the compulsion to enter politics in the first place. Almost all careers end in some sort of failure and with precious little public gratitude for the trouble. What special feature of DNA produces the irresistible urge to kiss babies, wear ridiculous rosettes and stand upon soapboxes?

It is hard to imagine how their lives can preserve the slightest trace of normality. The week must be a ceaseless whirl between chamber, committee and constituency. The culture of Westminster normally destroys marriages: it hardly seems the ideal place to conduct one. Most MPs complain that they scarcely have the time to see their children. Perhaps the Cryers and Peacocks have got it right after all. The only way to avoid the problem of never being at home is for the family all to sit in the House together.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

# current campaign

From Bishop Joe Aldred and others

Sir. Judging from recent articles in the press by Nicholas Budgen, the Conservative MP for Wolverhampton South West - eg. We ignore immigration at our peril", The Times, March 18—it seems that he and some of his colleagues are determined to raise this as an issue in the general election campaign. As leaders within the Christian communities of the West Midlands, we consider such action to be unacceptable.

Issues of race are real in the daily experience of many of those for whom we have spiritual responsibility or social concern. The rising number of re-ported and unreported racial attacks and the very considerable gap in the unemployment rate between black and white communities are two of many instances of a considerable

All the main political parties are signatories to the Principles of Good Practice and Conduct for Political Cumpaigners, published recently by the Commission for Racial Equality. In this they undertake "to ensure that in any dealing with the public, no words or actions are used which may stir up racial hatred or lead to racial

We urge all those involved in the current campaign to adhere to those

Yours sincerely. JOE ALDRED.

Director, Black and White Christian Partnership, TMICHAEL BOURKE, **†MAURICE COUVE de** 

MURVILLE, Roman Catholic Archbishop of CHRISTINA LE MOIGNAN Free Church Moderator, Birmingham, TMARK SANTER Bishop of Birmingham West Midlands Region Churches Forum. Carrs Lane Church Centre. Birmingham B4 75X.

#### Election 97

From Mr R. M. Matheson

Sir, The Shadow Chancellor Gordon Brown makes a great deal of the "22 Tory tax increases" (report, April 3), about which he clearly feels strongly. If Labour wins the election can we therefore look forward to 22 tax cuts?

R. M. MATHESON, Well Manor. Well, Hook, Hampshire. April 3.

From Mrs Elizabeth J. Swift

Sir, I would be interested to know which 748 organisations Reed Personnel Services surveyed to reach the conclusion that "a huge majority of UK businesses" feel it would make no difference or they would be more successful if the Government changed (report, Business, March 24).

As the owner of a small business I am very much concerned at the prospect of a Labour victory and have yet to speak to anyone from a small company who is not. A minimum wage, along with shorter hours, will no doubt see a lot of us off,

Being able to remember the last Labour Government, I will not be swayed by the silent tactics of Prescott, Cook, Beckett, etc. and will know that the predicted 3 per cent growth and continuing fall of unemployment will be thanks to my company, my contemporaries and the Conservative Government.

Yours faithfully. E. SWIFT (partner). Langwith Metal Finishers, Rawreth Industrial Estate, Rawreth Lane, Rayleigh, Essex.

#### From Mr Ronald Forrest

Sir, Lord Rees-Mogg (article, March 24) writes that Tony Blair is resented by many Scottish Labour supporters as an Englishman with a fancy accent who has hijacked their party.

That, in my opinion, seems to be even truer of the feelings of many Welsh Labour supporters, who believe that they are being offered an assembly as an afterthought simply because the London leadership promised a parliament to Scotland. By denying the proposed Welsh assembly any real powers, the Labour Party creates the impression that it discriminates against Wales. At the same time the large English element in Wales has been antagonised.

The outcome of the general election in Wales may well contain some sur-

Yours faithfully RONALD FORREST, Delfryn. Castle Morris, Nr Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, March 24.

#### From Mr Michael Lockett

Sir, The Reverend John Wynburne (letter, March 28) hopes that Mr Tim Smith's gifts will be "amply and creatively used in the future. Which gifts has he in mind?

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL LÓCKETT. Horsepond House, Millway Lane, Palgrave, Suffolk. March 28.

# Race as an issue in End of an era for railway network

From Mr Mark Woolley

Sir, You are fully justified in looking forward with optimism to the new era of a privately owned railway network (leading article, April 1). There can be little doubt that the frequent shifts in policy and restrictions in funding by successive governments over the past 50 years served only to stille the nationalised railway of the investment it

It is now becoming increasingly obvious that many towns which lost their railways during this period and have since expanded significantly would now be well placed to profit-ably support a rail service. Unfortunately, due to piecemeal redevelopment of former railway property. there is little likelihood of these routes ever being reopened, and many now sizeable communities have lost an important transport link forever.

Let us hope that through a combination of imaginative, newly formed railway operators and more enlightened planning policies by local authorities we will eventually see at least some areas regaining their lost railways, as has been the case in the Isle of Purbeck.

Yours faithfully, MARK WOOLLEY (Secretary, The Southern Steam Trust), Station House, Swanage, Dorset.

From Mr Barry S. Doe

Sir, When I left teaching in 1983 to become a public transport consultant ! did so in the belief that our corporate, national rail system had a great future. I never joined British Rail but would have been proud to do so, for I found myself working with excellent managers — young people with good degrees from top universities who had given their life to BR in a belief similar to my own.

I have nothing against privatisa-tion, and it could have been a great success — but only with a British Rail plc. The parts of the fragmented railway will never work together - indeed they were created to compete with each other.

We will never see anything again like the hold initiatives of BR's recent era, such as London Travelcard, railcards and Saver tickets, for the fragmented companies can only plan for themselves. Indeed, even corporare advertising of the rail system is dead. None of these problems, nor those of through ticketing and routeing guides, would have existed with a

And what of those excellent BR managers? Most have been "put out to grass" in their early 50s, replaced by new blood - quite often bus managers who have presided over a substantial loss in custom in their own industry over a period when rail patronage did not decline.

How I mourn already for what could have been. The fault lay entirely with a government belief that BR was inefficient and that anyone could do better. How wrong this was - yet Labour, of course, will do nothing about it. I predict, Sir, that within a short time we shall all miss BR very much.

Yours faithfully. BARRY S. DOE, 25 Newmorton Road, Moordown, Bournemouth, Dorset.

From Mr Keith Auton

Sir, I see that the last BR train pulled out only 24 minutes late (report, April 1). A call for renationalisation?

Yours etc. KEITH AUTON, 5 Humberstone Road. Andover, Hampshire.

#### Patients' rights

From Dr John Harding Price

Sir, The recent judgment by Mr Justice Wall that a 16-year-old anorexic patient could be detained in a clinic against her will in order to undergo feeding treatment (report, March 13; letter, March 22) has wide implications for patients.

The severity of anorexia nervosa is best understood as an illness where the patient's unconscious needs are such that she (male sufferers are rare) seeks to destroy herself because she cannot see any personality role in the future. It is a treatable disease and the natients make an excellent recovery.

However, the judgment raises the question about all the other illnesses where the mind has a direct effect on the body system or conversely the diseases have a direct effect on the mind.

limiting its function. The classical examples of these are alcoholism (excluded in the 1983 Act as a separate entity) and drug addiction. Here the patient, unable to have a constructive life, descends into an area of gutter care, which is a danger not just for himself but for the whole of society. Time and again further psycho-ses, triggered off by the drugs or alcohol, lead to the ill patients destroying innocent people. These patients also refuse treatment and/or medication.

The problem arises in many other instances - the diabetic patients who refuse to control their illness, and indeed all those other patients who have an idée fixe that they are not ill when to their friends and relatives they clearly are. These patients in large numbers fre-

quently fall through the simple mental health service and drift into prison where incarceration increases their disabilities. These cases, although relatively

rare, are very dangerous. Would it not be advisable to set up a panel with a judge, two psychiatrists, two lay people and a general practitioner, to whom they could be urgently referred. so that the patient and society may be spared disasters.

Yours faithfully JOHN HARDING PRICE (Consultant psychiatrist). Hafod, Cliff Garden, Sewell Road, Lincoln. April I.

#### Not so pacific

From Mr Erik Lundberg

Sir, I find it sad that recent publicity for Papua New Guinea (reports and leading article, "Not so pacific", March 27) should be as a result of its internal struggles. Despite a formid-able range of natural disasters in recent years and a devaluation in 1994, it is only eight years since the World Bank applauded Papua New Guinea for its keen fiscal management and pursuit of financial independence, substantially boosting investor confi-

Your leading article mentioned some of the logistical barriers to effective communication within Papua New Guinea. These have frequently added to the workload of those involved in development or peacemaking. Many are still suspi-cious of the involvement of any other than those belonging to their own clan Yet, once convinced of honourable

motive, these people are curiously dedicated. They are gifted with welcoming, humble hearts, glad to work for those things which lead to genuine progress. They possess a unique innocence, a reflection of the untainted topography that adorns their most splendid island. It is this very innocence that makes them vulnerable to those with a dual agenda.

In my humble opinion, Sir Julius Chan is one of Papua New Guinea's greatest statesmen, whose many ini-natives have helped to steer the nation to a position of substantial economic and political potential. For him a military option to the Bougainville situa-tion would have been a last resort and one that I am sure he would have justified on the basis of nine years of failed negotiation.

I believe that those few at the core of the current rebellion have rejected the person who advocates the only recent hope of a peaceful resolution.

Yours faithfully. E. LUNDBERG (Aide to Sir Julius Chan, 1992-93). 35 Tuscany Gardens, Northgate, Crawley, West Sussex. March 30.

#### Updated oath

From Mr T. G. Nash

Sir, Jeremy Laurance reports today that the British Medical Association has produced a modern version of the Hippocratic oath.

Surely it is hypocrisy to attribute the oath to Hippocrates, who must be turning in his grave. If the medical profession wishes to practise to a different set of moral values than those that have stood the test of time, I suggest it would be better to use the name of the present president or secretary of the BMA. I do not feel the latest version will give patients the same confidence in their attendants.

Yours faithfully, T. G. NASH, Westlands, 36 Collington Avenue, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex. March 28.

Letters for publication should carry contact telephone numbers. We regret that we cannot accept letters by telephone but they may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5046.

#### Romania and Nato From Sir Rowland Whitehead

Sir. You report today the speech by former King Michael of Romania urging Britain to back his country's Nato application. It was, indeed "impassioned and emotional" and. speaking to the King afterwards, even more so.

As it happened I had just stepped off the plane from Bucharest having had an hour with the President of Romania, Emil Constantinescu, meetings with government and industrial opinion and, always a clear reflection of popular sentiment, chats with numerous taxi drivers.

One has to report that there is a depth of feeling, an urgency of purpose, right across the Romanian population in favour of Nato membership to a degree that surprised me.

The arguments speak well for themselves - Britain absolutely must back this application.

ROWLAND WHITEHEAD, Sutton House, Chiswick Mall, W4. March 27.

#### Public theatre and private pockets

From the Artistic Director of the Norwich Playhouse

Sir, I was outraged by the suggestion in today's third leading article ("The ... loo's the thing") that Sir Alan Ayckbourn should put yet more of his own money into his Scarborough theatre. As you yourself make clear, Sir Alan has already given generously from his own pocket to provide his fellow citizens with a theatre. But nobody suggests that firemen should pay for us to enjoy a fire service, or that librarians should pay for libraries. Sports facilities are provided by the public purse, and museums seek no financial contribution from historians.

To suggest, as your leader does, that the closure of the Stephen Joseph Thearre would have been "a humiliation for the theatre that was ... opened with civic pomp only a year ago" has struck a somewhat melancholy chord here in Norwich, where the . Playhouse was opened only 15 months ago, with the help of a lottery grant but no money from the local councils or from the regional arts board.

Despite personal assurances to me by an official of the Arts Council that the Playhouse, once opened, would be "an irresistible case for funding", it has struggled to operate as a producing theatre without any revenue grant whatsoever, and is now having to close before it has had the chance to build up an audience. The humiliation, if there is any, should not be laid . at the door of the theatre, but belongs to those who do not support it. In Norwich, they do not even keep the public

loos open either. Producing theatres cannot exist without funding support from central and local government. It is surely not unreasonable to expect those who raise taxes and rates to use them generously in the cause of giving their citizens access to the most social of the

Yours faithfully. HENRY BURKE, Artistic Director, Norwich Playhouse, Gun Wharf, 42-58 St Georges Street, Norwich, Norfolk. April 3.

#### The evolving eye From Mr Clifford Wale

Sir. Mr Julian Wragg (letter, March ?) 27) admonishes Nigel Hawkes and defends Richard Dawkins's account of the evolution of the eye. In kins's explanation depends entirely on a single mutation, which then produced "a single, mutated, heat/light

Professor Michael J. Behe in his ." book Darwin's Black Box (Simon and :" Schuster, 1996) shows that such a mutation is a biochemical impossibil- 's ity. Nigel Hawkes's comments seem remarkably mild.

Yours faithfully, CLIFFORD WALE, Wistaria House, 2) High Street, Blunham, Bedfordshire. March 27.

#### Soaking up science

From Dr Brian Hoyle

Sir, The vexting question is not "the apparent causal relationship between forgetting to take an umbrella and the likelihood of precipitation" (letter, April I), but the apparent propensity of umbrellas to congregate in places where they are of least use.

In theory, I keep an umbrella in my ' office, in my car and at home. In practice, when it rains, I usually find that they have foregathered in one of the two locations other than where I hap. . pen to be.

Yours faithfully, BRIAN HOYLE, 80 Thornbury Wood, April I.

#### Silencing salesmen

From Professor Bob Spence

Sir, I sympathise with Alan Coren's receipt of intrusive telesales (March 26), and suggest a solution. When recently offered new windows I replied that, regrettably, my house had no : windows. There followed a delicious ... silence while the appropriate response was frantically sought, and not found. ...

Offers of life insurance could similarly be repulsed by the revelation of ... one's profession (war correspondent?) or, in extreme cases, by the exaggerated report of one's untimely demise.

Yours. ROBERT SPENCE, 1 Regents Close, Whyteleafe, Surrey. April I.

#### **London Aquarium**

From Mr Michael Brown

Sir, Over 20 years of my working life were spent in London's County Hall. ... It is therefore gratifying to read your report (March 29) that its present owners have reinstated its former use. as home to one of the biggest collections of sharks in the Western world.

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL BROWN, Marrick, 5 Hendon Close, Highbridge, Somerset. March 30.

The engagement is announced between Neil, son of the late Mr

Ian Hoggan and of Mrs Ian Hoggan, of Beckley, Sussex, and Iane, younger daughter of the late Dr and Mrs Ceril Maxwell, of

The engagement is announced between James Moorhouse, of

London, and Catherine Hamilton

Peterson, of Albuquerone New

The engagement is announced between Adam, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Robin Osborn, of

Hong Kong, and Philippa, elder daughter of Mr Bob Sanders, of

Hong Kong, and Mrs Heather O'Keefe, of Brisbane, Australia.

The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Mr and Mrs Stephen Palfreman, of Little

Chalfont, Buckinghamshire, and Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Ingram, of

The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Major and

Mrs Michael Price, of Barton Mills, Suffolk, and Katrina, elder

daughter of Mr and Mrs Royce

Verdon-Roe, of Warsash,

The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and

Mrs Stephen Saunders, of Great Chishill, Cambridgeshire, and Victoria, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Martin Shaw, of

The engagement is announced between Keith, son of Mrs Ian

Shannon and the late Mr Ian

Shannon, of Geldeston, Norfolk, and Alex, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs Desmond Longe, of

and Miss N. Metcalfe-Gibson

The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mr

and Mrs R.S. Shannon, of Tealby,

Lincolnshire, and Nicola, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs C.

Metcalfe-Gibson, of Ullock,

The engagement is announced between Michael, son of the late

Mr and Mrs Michael Francis

Sirrayo, of Boston, Massachusens

and Amanda Susan, daughter o

Major Ian Hyde-Smith, of Chiswick, and Mrs John Ford, of

The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr.

Arnold Thomas, of Slindon, West Sussex, and Mrs Susan George, of

West Stoke, West Sussex, and

Serena, daughter of Dr and Mrs Peter Beales, of Geneva,

The engagement is announced between Tobias James, elder son of Mr and Mrs Ross Young, of Stoke

St Gregory, Somerset, and Judith

Elinor, eldest daughter of Mr

and Mrs James Couper, of

Randwick, Gloucestershire.

Mr C.C.A. Thomas

Mr T.J. Young

and Miss S.E. Beales

and Miss A.S. Hyde-Smith

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**FST** —

and Miss K.R. Verdon-Roe

Mr J.O. Moorhouse, MEP,

and Miss C.H. Peterson

Liverpool.

Mexico, USA.

Mr A. Osborn

and Miss P. Sanders

Dr T.M. Palfreman

Tavistock, Devon. Mr S.C. Price

Mr S.R.F. Saunders

and Miss V.J. Shaw

Willingale, Essex.

Bungay, Suffolk.

Mr D.A. Shannon

Cumbria.

Mr M. Sirraw

Mr A.K.T. Shannon

and Miss I.A. Longe

and Miss E.J. Ingram



#### **COURT CIRCULAR**

BUCKINGHAM PALACE April 3: The Princess Royal today opened the World Small Animal Veterinary Association Congress at the International Convention Centre, Birmingham, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of West Midlands (Mr Robert Taylor).

KENSINGTON PALACE April 3: The Duchess of Glouces-ter, Patron, National Association

eties (NADFAS) this afternoon attended the Young NADFAS Silver Jubilee Day at Hampton Court Palace, East Molesey.

In the evening, Her Royal High ness attended a concert in aid of the English-Speaking Union's Music Fund at Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton Avenue, London

English-Speaking Union The Duchess of Gloucester at-

tended a gala concert held last

night at Drapers' Hall in aid of the English-Speaking Union Music Fund and to mark the centenary of

Mrs Edward Norman-Butler, Chairman of the ESU's Cultural

Affairs Committee, presided. Mr Robert Cohen, cello, and Mr Duncan Prescott, clarinet, ESU

music scholars, with Ms Elizabeth

Burley, piano, performed.

Baroness Brigstocke, chairman of the union, Mrs Norman-Butler and Mrs Valerie Mitchell, direc-

tor-general, received the guests at a reception held earlier.

Mr David Logan has been ap-

pointed Ambassador to Turkey in succession to Sir Kieran Prendergast who has retired from the Diplomatic Service.

Mr Stephen Brown to be Ambas-

sador to Korea in succession to Mr Tom Harris who is moving to a new appointment in the DTL

Mr Malcolm Hilson to be High

Commissioner to Vanuatu from

May in succession to Mr Jim Daly

who is moving to a new Dip-lomatic Service appointment.

Appointments

the death of Johannes Brah

Reception

#### Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, trustee, will attend a meeting of the council followed by luncheon at St George's House, Windsor Castle, at 10.30.

The Princess Royal will attend the International Festival of Youth Rugby Finals at Murrayfield at

The Marine Society The 225th Annual Court of The Marine Society will be held at 11.45 on Tuesday, May 20, 1997, at The Lambeth, when Admiral of the Fleet Sir Julian Oswald, GCB, will give the address.

#### Furniture Makers' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Furniture Makers Company for the ensuing year: Master, Mr C.E.F. Brett Senior Warden, Mr C.T.A. Junior Warden, Mr J.A. Jacobs.

#### Birthdays today

Mr Peter Attenborough, former Headmaster, Charterthouse, 59; Sir, John Beith, diplomat, 83; Mr Den Dover, MP, 59; Mrs Margaret Dupont, sennis champion, 79; Dr Chris Fay, chairman, Shell UK, 52; Brigadier Anne Field, former director, WRAC, 71; Mr J.M. Fleming, former chairman, Vauxhali Motors, 67; Mr Trevor Griffiths, playwright, 62; Lord Inchyra, 62; Earl Jellione, FRS, 79; Mr Gregory Knight, MP, 48; Colonel Sir Bryce Knox, former Lord-Lieutenant of Ayrshire and Arran. 81; Mr Richard Mansell-

Jones, chairman. J. Bibby and Sons, 57: Professor David Melville. chief executive, Further Education Funding Council, 53; Mr Tim Newell, Governor, Grendon prison, 55; Mr Paul Parker, foot-baller, 33; Mr Barry Reams-bottom, general secretary, CPSA, 48; Mr lan Robertson, director, National Army Museum, 54; Mr Dave Sexton, football manager, 67: Dame Catherine Tizard, former Governor-General of New Zealand; 66; Professor George Wedell, former director-general, European Institute for the Media, 70.

#### University news

Oucen's Belfast

The university has won research funding of more than £2.6 million. The latest grants have come including the Department of Economic Development's Industrial Research and Technology Unit, industry, charities and research

The funding is for studies in the university's Faculties of Agriculture and Food Science, Economics and Social Sciences. Engineering, Law, Medicine and Science. The Institute of European Studies at Queen's and the university's Health and Health Care arch Unit have also bene-Research Unit nave and interior fitted, as has its award-winning environmental research initiative. the Ouestor Centre.

The largest slice of the funding

ackage — more than £600,000 has been awarded to the Faculty of Medicine for a range of projects, including research on asthma, leukaemia, arthritis and Alzheimer's Disease.

The other awards included the largest single grant - £219,750 from the European Community -which was awarded to Dr Alan Marshall of the Department of Electrical and Electronic En-gineering. The funding is for research on cellular access to hoselband services and interactive television.

Professor Emeritus The title of Professor Emeritus has been conferred on Dr David Harkness, Professor of Irish History from 1975 to 1996, and on Dr Gerard Stockman, Professor of



Serena Bradbeer of Sotheby's holding The Music Lesson by Gerard Terborch (c 1617-81), which is estimated to fetch between £600,000 and £800,000 at an auction on July 2. The painting, one of four important Dutch Old Masters in the sale, shows a music master supervising a young lady playing the lute. The works are being sold by the executors of the estate of the late Agnes Elizabeth Roach, whose father, Enrico Fattorini, was a Yorkshire businessman who assembled a remarkable collection of Old Masters in the 1930s and 1940s

#### Frontier city unlocks its secrets

BY NORMAN HAMMOND ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

ARCHAEOLOGISTS in Carlisle have been given £350,000 of millennium funds to reopen Rome's gateway to the north. Standing at the western end of Hadrian's Wall, the Roman precursor of Carlisle commanded access into southwestern Scotland, and Cumbria against protected barbarian incursions.

The project "will focus on Carlisle's unique frontier role, as well as developing themes from the massive archaeological database accumulated during excavations over the past quarter century", said Mike McCarthy, director of the city's archaeological unit. A prime target will be location of the Roman bridge which car-ried Hadrian's Wall across the River Eden. ...

A Roman fort lies adjacent to the medieval Carlisle Castle, and Mr McCarthy believes that the key to the Dark Ages in the region may also lie there. "Is this the location of his successors, Owain, Rhun, and others in the 6th and 7th centuries?" he asks. A major excavation with public viewing will try to find the answers.

Other features of the millennium development will include rebuilding of the city's Irish Gate, and a new gallery linking the Tullie House Museum with the castle. Schoolchildren, students and tourists will see "the cutting edge of discovery and archaeology in action", Mr McCarthy says.

# £10m drive to healthier eating

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THE supermarkets are battling to improve the nation's eating habits, they claim. Coop superstores have launched a £10 million drive to encourage customers to eat healthier foods with a monthly shop-ping list of recommended

products on promotion. Safeway seeks to help parents to wean children from crisps and chocolate bars by offering individually washed and brightly wrapped fruit, vegetables and dried fruit, suitable for snacks and lunchboxes. This fruit and vegetable range produced with children in mind is a supermarket first and signifies our commitment to introduce the young to fruit and vegetables at an early stage," says Safeway's nutritionist, Moyra Howie.

Advertised promotions include:

Asda: Topside/silverside with added basting far £4.38 kg, beef rump steak £6.49 kg, premium cod fillet in crumb £2.95 for 600g, preacked salads 70p for 100/200g, Gala apples 45p lb, strawberries 99p for 420g. Budgens: Leg of pork £1.67 lb. smoked haddock cutlets/fillets £2.87 lb. smoked Dutch bacon

back rashers £1.49 for 250g, baking atoes El.89 for 5kg, mandarins £1.69 for 1.5kg, Davidstow mature cheddar £2.39 lb.

Co-op (CWS): Skinless chicken

fillets £2.99 for £25g, turkey thigh mince £1.49 for £454g, pork chops £3.73 kg, cod fillets £4.99 kg, French red apples 89p for xix, spring greens £49p for \$00g, pure orange juice £49p for.

Dewhurst: Frozen turkeys 69p lb, chickens £3.99 for 1.6/1.7 kg. Harrods: Ostrich biltong £7.99 for 100g, lamb and beef droewors £2.29 for 100g, jambon grillé £1.59 for 100g, artichoke tortelloni £1.99 for 100g, spinach and tomato soufflé £1.79 each.

Iceland: Minced beef £2.37 for 1.36kg, quarter pounders £1.49 for eight, boneless chicken breasts £3.99 for 900g, salmon fish cakes 99p for eight, sweet and sour chicken 99p for 340g, raspberries

Kwik Save: Birds Eye 15 crispy chicken dippers £1.19 for 275g, Allinsons wholement loaf 47p for 400g, Cadbury's Dairy Milk 73p for 200g, Flora Light 77p for 500g, Walls Viennetta £1.29 for 600 ml Marks & Spencer: Chicken breast fillets £7.99 for ten, salmon en croute £4.49, New Zealand lamb leg knuckle £5,29 kg, Orkney smoked salmon £3.99 for six slices, mini Melton Mowbrays El.29 for six, baby cherry tomatoes EL59 for 300g, bread and butter pudding El.49, strawberries El.99 for 900g. Morrisons: Pork chops from £1.39 lb, topside/silverside £1.89 lb, ing steak £3.72 kg. boneless erel 85p lb. Scottish salmon £1.59 lb, hothouse lettuce 19p each, strawberries 99p lb, eating and

Sufeway: Rump steak £7.49 kg, chicken breast fillets £6.66 for 1.19kg. Scottish salmon steaks E3.99 for four (570g), chicken and broccoli pasta bake 99p for 300g. wholemeal bread 76p for two 880g loaves, oranges El.19 for 12, iceberg lettuce 49p each, Royal Gala apples El.79 for two packs. Sainsbury's Turkey steaks £2.99 for four (500g), topside £5.79 kg, breaded haddock £2.69 for 480g, lean ham round £1.49 for 454g, wild mushroom soup 79p for 500ml, twinpack gartic bread 99p for 370g, croissants 99p for eight, Iceberg lettuce 49p each, oranges £1.90 for 12, Gold Choice coffee

£2.94 for 200g. Somerfield: Pork loin chops £5.89 kg, beef salsa surprise £1.69 for 275g, roast whole chickens £3.37 kg, smoked cod fillet £3.57 kg, softbake white baguettes 79p for six, onions 79p for Zkg, red potatoes £1.49 for 5kg, Gala apples 44p lb, mandora 44p lb.

Tesco: Boneless shoulder of pork £2.46 kg, pork chops £3.74 kg, beef forerib £4.49 kg, lamb half leg £5.99 kg, whole salmon £1.57 lb, haddock fillet £1.95 lb, raw peeled tiger prawns £L09 4lb, Iceberg lettuce 35p each, Cape Williams pears 28p lb, strawberries 99p for 454g, Golden Delicious 38p lb. Waitrose: Free range chickens £2.99 up to 2.3kg, British diced braising beef £2.59 for 500g, spiced pork sausages £1.35 for eight, French country ham £1.29 for 100g, baby new potatoes 79p lb, baby new potatoes 79p lb, aubergines 75p lb, Bon Rouge pears 59p lb, rhubarb £1.09 for 450g, Somenset ripe Brie £5.29 for 225g, chocolate soft set ice-cream £1.49 for 2ltr.

#### **Anniversaries**

BIRTHS: Grinling Gibbons, wood carver, Rotterdam, 1648; Sir Wil-liam Siemens, inventor, Lenthe, Germany, 1823; Rémy de Gourmont, writer, Bazoches-en-Houlmes, France, 1858. DEATHS: Robert III, King of Scotland 1390-1406, Dundonald

pier, inventor of logarithms, Merchiston Castle, Edinburgh, 1617; Maurice of Nassau, Prince of Orange, military leader. The Hague, 1625: Oliver Goldsmith, playwright, novelist and poet, London, 1774; Karl Benz, pioneer of the motorcar, Paris, 1929: André Castle, Rothesay, 1406; John Na-Michelin, motor tyre manufac-

turer. Paris. 1941: Gloria Swanson, actress. New York, 1983. Francis Drake was knighted by Queen Elizabeth I on board The Golden Hind on his return from circumnavigating the world, 1581. Martin Luther King, Nobel Peace laureate 1964, was assassinated in Memphis. Tennessee, 1968.

#### **Forthcoming** marriages

Mr R.I.M. Ashfield and Flight Lieutenant J.M. Salter The engagement is announced between Robert, only son of Mr and Mrs Tim Ashfield, of Broughton. Hampshire, and Joanna, elder daughter of Mr Frank Salter and Mrs Chris Salter. of south Landon.

Mr D.J. Attenburros and Miss J.L. Burton The engagement is announced between David, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs Donald Attenburrow, of Langford. Devon, and Judic, younger daughter of the late Mr John Burton and of Mrs John Burton, of Sutton Coldfield.

Mr P.J. Boards and Miss S.C. King-Smith The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Boardman, of Edgbaston Birmingham, and Susan, daughter of Mr and Mrs Terence King-Smith. of Snowshill, Gloucestershire.

Mr E.G. Colby and Miss H.J. Crease The engagement is announced between Edward, son of Commander and Mrs R. Colby, of Bickington, Devon, and Hermione, only daughter of Mr and Mrs D.P. Crease, of Scampston, North Yorkshire. Mr H.R. Darell-Brown

and Miss L. Webster The engagement is announced between Henry, son of Mr and the Hon Mrs Anthony Darell-Brown, of Witnesham, Suffolk, and Lindsey, daughter of Mr David Webster, of Mitcheldean, and Mrs Patricia Ashton, of Stonehouse,

Gloucestershire. Mr I Davies-lones and Miss A.D. King The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Dr and Mrs Aelwyn Davies-Jones, of Sheffield, and Annette, daughter of Mr Brian King, of North Walsham, Norfolk, and Mrs Gerlinde King. of Surlingham, Norfolk

Mr MJ. Dick and Miss S.D. Hill The engagement is announced between Martin John, son of Mr and Mrs lain Dick, of Milngavie, Glasgow, and Sarah Diana, daughter of Mr William Hill and the late Mrs Diana Hill, of the Old Vicarage, Stoney Middleton, Derbyshire.

Captain T.H. Duff and Miss N.J. de Vink The engagement is announced between Captain Tom Duff. The King's Own Scottish Borderers, son of Mr and Mrs Ronald Duff, of Regent Terrace, Edinburgh, and Natalie, daughter of Mr Peter de Vink, of Huntly Cot, Midlothian, and Mrs Jean de Vink, of Moray

Place, Edinburgh. Mr P.H. Eastwood and Miss S.L. Harrison The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Mr and Mrs Hugo Eastwood, of Belgravia. London, and Sophie, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Harrison, of Chelsea, London.

Mr R.J. Flury \_\_\_\_\_ and Miss J.C. Down The engagement is announced between Rupert, son of Dr and Mrs Roy Flury, of Wheatley, Oxfordshire, and Joanna, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Ronald Down, of Liss, Hampshire.

and Miss M.G. O'Grady The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Professor and Mrs Fred Heatley, of Pyrford, Surrey, and Maureen, twin daugh-ter of Mr and Mrs Patrick O'Grady, of Sonoma, California,

Longniddry, East Lothian. Graham Gardiner, of Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire, left estate valued at £994,079 net. He left £20,000 to the Royal Star and Garter Home for Disabled Sallors, Soldiers and Airmen.

#### Latest wills

Lord Margadale, Lord-Lieuten-ant of Wiltshire 1969-81, left estate valued at £4.443,625 net. He left his estate mostly to relatives. Connie Ribeiro De Melo, of Grasmere, Cumbria, left estate valued

Laurence Marshall Edmonds, retired accountant, of Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, left estate valued at £1,386,496 net.

TRADE: 0171 481 1982

MUSICAL

INSTRUMENTS

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

# PERSONAL COLUMN

The Lord has everted your punishment, be has swept away your foes. Issuel, the Lord is among you as king never again need you feer disaster. Zephaniah 3: 15 BIRTHS

SEDDELL - See Willott. BUCHANAN - On March 31st 1997, to CS (née Boorman) and Angus, a daughter, PREED - On April let at The Portland Hospital, to Capoline and Matthew, a sun, Jonah Henry, a brother for George.

FUNCAMO - On Mesch 27th at The Portland Hospital, to Yasuko and Kasuhiro, a pretty daughter, Hanako. pressy caughter, Hander. Brews: - On March 24th 1997, to Ethabeth (née Bunster) and Gabriel at UCH, a son, Benjiamin, a brother for William, Edward and Louise. wateren, Edward and Louise.

21st 1997, to Magda (née
Wisczorak) and Huw, twin
beochers for Imba, Daniel
Huw and Tossas Robert.

maw and Tossas Robert.

MARTIN - On 2nd April 1997
at Sast Survey Hospital, to
Denys and Barbare (nde
Donn), a daughter, Amelia
Elleen. MOONT-SELION - On 2nd April in Paris, to Helen (note Parnifeld) and Mark, a daughter, Katherine Lacy, a sixter for Charlie.

OLBER-SAVELIEV - On 1st April, to Jame and Andrei, a son, Timur Andreevich, a brother for Entys. RASHLEIGH - On 1st April 1997, to 5mma (née McGougan) and Eichard, a son David William Augustine SCOTT - On March 24th 1997, to Eay (née Baritrop) and Andrew, a son, Thomas Henry Douglas.

SMINTON - On March 29th, to Lindsey (née Gryspeerdt) and Will, a daughter, a sister for Sau. TERRAM - On March 27th at The Portland Hospital, to Joanna (ade Glynn) and Christopher, a beautiful son,

Christopher, a beautiful son, Occar Henry.

WALKGH-MURRO - On March
9th, to Lorraine (Rée Occised) and Geordie, twins, Rory James Christian and Amelia Charlotte Rose at Ninervells Hospital, Dardes. Wastestoute - (m Srd April in Worcester, to Alex and Sheens, a son, Thomas

and the state of the same of t

BIRTHS WILLIAMS - On March 20th 1997, to June (née Woodage) and Tint, a daughter, Fleur, a sister for Imogea. WillOTT - On March 9th, to June (née Biddell) and Roger, a daughter, Serena Isobel, a sister for Miranda. WOODSHIFTON - On 2nd April 1997, to Steart and Esthrya, a daughter, Olivin Anne.

DEATHS

BEVAN JONES - Dr. Harri (Bev')
peacefully at home on
Baster Sunday 30th Mench
1997 after a long illness
courageously fought,
beloved husband of Muriel
and mach loved father of
kruce, Fenny, Hilary and
Tressa, grandfather of mas
and great-grandfather.
Funeral Service at Southandon-Sea Crematorium,
Tuesday Sth April at 2 pm.
Family Sth April at 2 pm.
Family flowers only.
Donations if desired to
Fathinson's Dissers Society,
22 Upper Woburn Flace,
London WCIH ORA. Endou Wille Old.

Endeber - George Malcohn
died poscernily on 3rd April,
father of Frances, Anne,
Isobel and John. Cremetted
as Walton Les Cremettedum,
Warringson, 10:30 am Friday
11th April. Family flowers.
Donations to Farkinson's
Disease Society.

Disease Society.

CARR - Notman Joseph MEE
OGDS "Kakuli" died
peacefully in Johannesburg
in the early hours of 1st
April 1997 after a brave
light and dedicated nursing.
Sailly missed by his devoted
loving family and friends.
Cremathon will be private.
No flowers please,
Donations in memory to
Expand School Pund, PO Box
100, Mfave, Zambia.

CHARLESWORTH - Frederic CHARLESWORTH - Frederic Vivian on 2nd April 1997 pencefully at home aged 86. Funeral at Dunsfeld 11 am 8th April 1997.

Sth April 1997.

COLVILL - Hammah Enthless pascefully on April 1st at Oxborne House aged 94. Widow of Lt Col. D.G. Colvill, dear mother of Michael, grandmother to Tracay. Funeral Service at St Mildred's Church, Whippingham, East Cowes, Lo.W. on Wednesday April 9th at 2 pm. Family Houses only. Donations appreciated to Friends of Osborne House,

DEATHS

CHROS - Peter Michael aged 62 years suddenly in Kingston Hospital after many months of disability bravely borne. A Younger Recther of Trinity House, management consultant and London Society referred and very deathy leved husband, father, grandfather and friend. Funeral at Ringston Crematorium on Tuesday 8th April at 1 pm. Plowers or donations to British Stoke Association) to Fred Paine, 265 Ewell Road, Surbton, KT6 7AA.

DAVIES - Loveday Mary Margaret, peacefully in hospital on Easter Day. Much loved wife of Iony, mother of Richard, Stella, William and Sophia, gundmother of Megna and dear friend of many. Funeral at 5t Ricolas Church, Great Bookham at 2.30 pm on Thursday, 10th April Pamily flowers only but donations, if wished, to Cancer Research Campaign cro Eastarch Campaign cro Eastarch Campaign cro Eastarch Campaign cro Eastarch Campaign cro 2724.35.

Different para (née Pracescom) in her 73rd year, wife of Phil and mother of Richard, Robin and William, as the result of an accident on lat April 1997. Funeral at her home, Scotshurn House, Klidary, at I pan on Saunday 5th April. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to the Scottlah Redundant Churches Trust.

EFILEY-Berths on March 31st 1997. Beloved widow of Baidy, much lowed mother of Toss, John, Robert, Andrew and Jane and loving grandmother and great-grandmother. A Service of Thunksgiving will be held at Long Crendon Fariah Church at 230 pm on Thundsy 10th April. No flowers please, but domations if desired to ERL. Women's Branch Long Crendon of Mrs H. Samuel, Cop Hill, Chempley Road, Long Crendon, Aylesbury, Books.

PLEMMING - On 29th March, aged 91, in the loving care of the staff at Sutton Manor, Elizabeth (nåe Haden). Widow of Cecil, mother of Diams, jonathen and William and a much loved grandmother. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving at Holy Thinty Church, Womston, at Winchester on Tuesday 8th April at 3 pm.

GEE - Carotine, 2nd April is Sydney, Australia. Beloved mother of Zee and Hugh, sister of Philipps and Murray, Charlotte, Gogo and John Duschy loved and sadly subsed by her many friends and her family.

GORDON - David William SORDORI - David William Somerville FECS, FECOG. Died April 1st 1997, at home, overlooking the daffodils, after a long linear borne with mach counse and dignity. During hostband of Sut., a wonderful father to Ficas, Selimia and Sustants and superb stepfather to Duncam and jonathen and grandfather of Auna and Sophie, Funeral Service on Wednesday April 9th at the Church of The Good Shephend, Tudwette, Surrey at 3 pm followed by private burial at Fowerstock, Dursel on April 11th, Family Burial at Powenstock, Dorset on April 11th, Family flowers only. Donations it destred to Princets Alice Houghos, fisher clo Stoneman Puneral Service, Doran Court, Redhill, Bell 64Z. Tek (01737) 763456.

NORSE - Walter Z. - aged 86 suddenly at home in Baling on Fidery 28th March less of Register Bouse and denty leved father of Earel. Funeral at Mortlake Communication Rehmond on Tuesday 8th April at 3 pa. 8th engines for Christopher Wickenden Funeral Services. 71., Greenford Avenue, London W7 1LJ. Tel No. 0181 579 7176.

JONES - David Srian 30th March 1997 aged 54. A tengle accident in Clad. A t

REMONT - Geoffrey Equrton
CSE on March 31st,
puscefully in hospital aged
76. Beloved Bushand of
Dollar (nos Bugle). Father of
Venetia and Amands and
proud gandfather of jusses,
Zinsia, Devisa, Tam, Felix
and Katle. Private family
cremation. Thanksgiving
Service at St. Luke's Church,
Sydney Street. Chaises on
Wednesday, 9th April at
4pm. No flowur. Donations
to Royal Marines Wellare
Pund, The Corps Secretary,
Royal Marines. SME
Excellent, Portamouth FO2
SEE.

MATTHEWS - On Easter Seturday in hospital after a brief liness Winifred Elimenth, belowed wife of the late Ronald Charles Matthews of Caerleon. Enquiries to Towny Bros., 9/11 Canfir Food, Newyort, tal. (01633) 266848.

MORTON - On April 2nd, pencefully in his garden at Chapterd, Deven, Feter John, Royal Nary (Bettl.), Balowd hushand, Father and Grandy. NEAME - Marjorie Eneriet
Mary born 29th November
1904 in Mitcham, passed
away pencertally in her sleep
on 26th March 1997 in
Vancouver, Canada, after an
eventful and courageous
life, the will be much missed
by her daughter juile,
geneisons has and Andrew
and her nephew Gudans.

mo per hepnew Grahms.

RECHARDSON - On March 29th
after a brief (Buees at the
University College Hospital
whilst on holiday from
Malta, Professor Keith
Chifford aged 91 years.
Funeszi at Golders Green
Cremstorium (West Chapel)
on Thursday Apel 10th at
3ym. No flowers please but
écnations to Imperial
Cancer Research Fund e/o
Leventon & Sons int, 212
Hvershoft Street, London
NWI 1800.

Sarvice of Thenhaultring at St. Helvas Church, Wheathenspetend, Berts. at 12:30 pas. Family Gowers only, Donations if Solvers only, Donations if Solvers only, Donations if Solvers Fund ob LC Weston Funeral Director, Unit 25, 17 Leyton Enod, Rappenden, Herts, Tel Phone No. 01582 712865.

ECONOMIC PROPERTY (Dick), on 27th March at Maldon, Sunch of Hyde Hall Garden aged 80. The function has taken place. STOLESAGEN - Schull, West Cork. Thomas Fredrick SSc. FICR. On April 1st 1997 suddenly after a beart attack aged 69. Frammi Service on Saturday at II am in St Many's Chunch, Schull.

SCOTT - Bamey, on Saturday
29th March in Clause Burn
Hospital, as brave as ever
after a long Illuser. Dumly
loved by all but especially
by Gwen, Wendy and family.
Private Gramation followed
by Sarvice of Thunkagiving
at Christ Church,
Cockfosters on Tuesday
15th Agell at 2.15pm. Family
flowers. Donations to
Abbeyfield Southgate
Society and Cancer Eslief
Hacadilan Fund. TAFFS - Lealis Prant PER

TAFE - Lealig Peant: PEU FECUS on Baster Saturday 29th Manch 1997 peacefully at home after a counspices fight against illness. Dearly loved insubund of Carol and father of Andrew and Journa. Private compation on Priday 11th April followed by Sarvices of Theakendring at St. Malens. Charch.

Prosection of the Commission of Series of Comments of Hong Kong and Maleya, died on Sist March at Bacolod, Philippine Islands, in the care of his Philippine Servants.

reflectment - Passed away suddenly on March 29th 1997 at the john Endelline Hospital, Ontond, Antonino, aged 78 years. Seleved pape of Peter, Annalisa and Chistian. He will be easily missed by all of his friends in the Endler of Peters, Annalisa and Chistian. He will be easily missed by all of his friends in the St. Johns Chapel, Onford Community. Featural Service in the St. Johns Chapel, Onford Communitation on Peters April 11th, at 10 sm. Family flowers only please, donations to the Oxford Ipalian Social Crub.

WCK - Richard William died peacefully on April 1st. Loved and supported by his family, respected judge and courrageous R.T.B. Commander. Service at Cheltonham Cummendedme on Monday April 7th at 11 nm. Flowers or denations for RMLI, Gasport, may be sent to Fred Stevens Funeral Directo, Nevenadost Ecod, Rullsworth, Clos. MOLEX & CANTUM wented High than prices paid, 0171 495 8992 or visit 31 Path Lines W1.

MEMORIAL SERVICES BELMONY - Michael and Virginia A Memodal Service for Michael and Virginia Behavar will be haid at 12 2000 on 23rd April at St Faul's Church, Knightsbridge, Wilton Flace, SVI.

ROUND - The Memorial service for Lt. Col. James Gray Round O.R.E. IF. D.L. will be held at All Status, Feeding, Kelvedon, Besers, on April 15th at 3 yes. Donetions if desired to the Essers Association of Boys Club, Enrysy House, Rectory Lane, Chelmsford.

STIGAL - The Memorial Ston to Harry will be dedicated at the Western Cemetery, Chaptent, on Sunday April 13th at 10 am. THANKSGIVING SERVICES

Walls - Murial Mackie, MIR. A service of Thunkagiving for the life of Murial Walls is to be held at Holy Trinity Church, High Street, Guildford, on Tuneday, 29th April, at 12 noon. All walcome.

BIRTHDAYS SERVICES PLINET FARTHERS National Dut-ing Agency, If you are please for prefer a please pastner ring 01562 718907.

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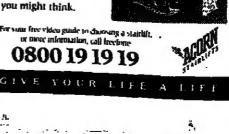
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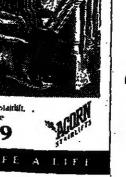


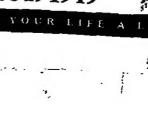












#### U. ALEXIS JOHNSON

U. Alexis Johnson, United States diplomat, died on March 24 aged 88. He was born on October 17,

mainstay of American diplomacy, U. Alexis Johnson worked through some of the most chilling days of the Cold War. His 40-year career in the Foreign Service brought him a close shave with death in Saigon, ambassadorships to Czechoslovakia, Thailand and Japan, and seats at some of this century's more important international negoriating tables.

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A bureaucrat by instinct and temperament, he tended to regard himself as a mechanic of American foreign policy rather than its moulder, the reliable boiler-room engineer who kept the diplomatic ship ploughing through the waves, while his political superiors on the bridge charted the course. Nevertheless. successive

Presidents, particularly John Kennedy and Richard Nixon, relied upon the softly-spoken Johnson for assignments of considerable complexity. Yet, in the world beyond Foggy Bottom and the White House, only the most earnest students of American foreign policy were familiar with his name and even they had to search hard among the footnotes to find a mention of his achieve-

As with most career diplomats, that was the way he preferred it to be. The press, which he described in mainly derogatory terms, he regarded as a pest and a nuisance. In the words of a colleague who knew him in Washington during Kennedy's presidency, he was "a dedicated, hard-working public servant, stubborn. cautious, taciturn, a figure frequently seated behind the potted palm. Only grudgingly would he divulge even the time of day to an associate who lacked the requisite security classification".

Johnson's first name was Ural, after the mountain range, but he took to using simply the initial when he entered the US Foreign Service in 1935. A teacher suggested that it would "ring more

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

dors of the State Department at Foggy Bottom.

Among his colleagues he was an anomaly. The Midwestern grandson of Swedish immigrants, he grew up in rural Kansas and in California, where the family later moved, and was educated locally and at Occidental College in Los Angeles where he read economics.

American diplomats, in those elitist and isolationist days, tended to come from established East Coast families and Ivy League colleges, and at first Johnson's prospects looked bleak. He passed the Foreign Service entrance examination in 1932, but at a time of government cuts was offered no immediate job.

In 1935, to his relief, he was eventually posted to the US Embassy in Tokyo, and then served by turns in Korea, China, Korea once more and then Manchuria, where he was stranded on the day that the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. The following day he was placed under house arrest, then interned by the Japanese and not repatriated for eight months

After the war, because of his fluent Japanese, he was sent back to the Far East as one of General MacArthur's staff. In 1951 he was a member of the US delegation to the Japanese peace treaty conference in San Francisco. For three frustrating years he led talks with the Chinese over disengaging US troops in Korea, and was rewarded by President Eisenhower in 1953 with his first ambassadorship to Prague.

His next Embassy, from 1958 to 1961, was Bangkok, a posting which gave him useful contacts among Thai mercenaries. These were the soldiers who, later in the 1960s, he was to deploy in the fighting in Laos, and which he so imaginatively described as "local forces" in order that they could be paid in American money in accordance with congressiona requirements. (Congressional meddling in foreign affairs was one of his lifelong bug-

Johnson returned to Washington in 1961 at a time when President Kennedy was filling ed that it would "ring more his State Department with impressively" along the corri- people to whom he owed



U. Alexis Johnson arriving as US Ambassador to Prague

campaign debts. Standing apart from such figures, John-son as Deputy Under-Secretary of State ranked as the highest-ranking Foreign Ser-vice officer. Among other duties, he served as the department's go-between with the top levels of the CIA and the Pentagon, a function which made him party to a number of cloak-and-dagger operations, although he main-tained to the end of his life that he knew nothing of such bizarre proposals as the plan

to kill Castro with an explod-

But he always remained an unapologetic hawk on Vietnam. As early as 1961 he was urging "defeat of the Vietcong" as the ultimate objective of US

policy in the area, and in 1964, him the third senior official in as the war escalated, he was the State Department. He got on fine with William Rogers, made assistant ambassador in Saigon as an indication of the Nixon's first Secretary of State. more aggressive approach but his relationship with the whichAmerica was planning White House National Secto take. It was his memoranurity Adviser Henry Kissindum on the subject which kickstarted "Rolling Thun-der", the ultimately futile ger, who had little time for professional diplomats. started off by being distinctly bombing campaign against bumpy. It later, however, imthe North. Johnson was inproved - with Kissinger de jured by flying glass from a car bomb during his posting scribing Johnson in his memoirs as "skilled, disciin Saigon, but fortunately he plined, prudent and loyal".

His last posting, from 1973 survived the attack. Three years followed in the to 1977, was to Geneva, where late 1960s as Ambassador to he was made chief American Japan, before Johnson was negotiator of the Strategic recalled by President Nixon to Arms Limitation Talks (Salt). Washington, in 1969, as his Under-Secretary of State for Political Affairs — making of what he could expect from

AGNES DUNCAN

his Soviet opposite numbers. As he said in 1977: "To my mind, Salt is a continuing process. The dialogue we have had over thousands of hours, from the President down to sub-committees of the Geneva delegations - these are, in part, an educative process. I have a feeling that this dialogue must continue in some form, or some place along the line we are going to blow each other up, commit suicide." In his retirement Johnson

acted as a consultant to the State Department, and in 1984 published his own memoirs, The Right Hand Of Power. He was married and widowed twice, and is survived by two sons and two daughters of his first marriage.

#### DR ANTHONY **HOPKINS**

Dr Anthony Hopkins, director of the research unit of the Royal College of Physicians, died after a collapse on March 6 aged 59. He was born on October 15, 1937,

ALTHOUGH an eminent clinical neurologist. Anthony Hopkins went on to enjoy a second distinguished career as director of the research unit of the Royal College of Physicians. Here he made a strong impact on improving the quality of healthcare.

His approach was groundbreaking. He involved colleagues around the country and worked with their professional associations. He skil-fully facilitated joint working between the different disciplines, bringing together doctors, nurses, therapists, managers and others in an attempt to overcome previous barriers to inter-professional collaboration. This was seen particularly in work on the healthcare of older people and patients who had suffered strakes. He pioneered the involvement of patients in defining and developing high-quality healthcare.

Born in Poole, Dorset, An-thony Philip Hopkins was

educated at Sherborne. It was while he was there that his mother decided that he would be suited to medicine. He appears to have agreed and went on to study at Guy's Hospital Medical School. He proved an outstanding student, both academically and sartorially, and he qualified as a doctor in 1961.

He specialised in neurology at the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases, Queen's Square (1964-72). There was a year at the Mayo Foundation and, more significantly, a year at the Saltpetrière Hospital in Paris as a Medical Research Council exchange scholar. There, on St Valentine's Day, he met his future wife, who was then studying at the Sorbonne. They were married in 1965

At an early age, he was appointed in 1972 a consultant neurologist at St Bartholo-mew's Hospital. He was elected to the fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians in 1976 and rose to become the physician in charge of the artment of Neurological Sciences from 1976 to 1988.

Two themes emerged early in his research which were later to put him far ahead of his time: he valued the views of patients on their illnesses and their healthcare; and, he saw the need for a broader approach to improving medical care. His foremost characteristics were his compassion, thoughtfulness and understanding. His flair for gardening, which had been apparent from early childhood, was

perhaps reflected in his skill for bringing on people. He could spot talent and was generous in his support, particularly when he detected a glint of enthusiasm and commitment. This stood him in good stead in his second career.

Unexpectedly, this began when he succeeded Sir Cyril Clarke as director of the research unit of the Royal College of Physicians in 1988. Here he made his most lasting contribution. Although academic colleagues might have looked askance at the unit which had neither laboratories, staff, an academic career structure, nor patients under its care, Hopkins believed that he could attack the perennial problem that much medical research is not put into practice.

An enduring memory for many people will be a working tunch in his office overlooking Regent's Park or at his club ~ the Garrick. In such gatherings, he would tactfully, but incisively, cut through any waffle to get to the heart of the matter. He had a particular ability to link what clinical colleagues were saying to him about the health service with policy matters at a national level. This intellectual rigour was widely valued at the many key national committees of which he was a member.

Hopkins wrote prolifically. Among many influential texts are the reports and books of his unit on the quality of healthcare. He was particular-ly proud of his textbook, Clinical neurology, a modern approach (1993). He was keen on information technology but not for his writing - a computer was never seen on his leather-topped desk. Like many doctors, his handwriting was characteristic and his annotations of a manuscript would often wind right around the page - sometimes twice.

There was an important international dimension to Hopkins's work, also. He worked jointly with European and American professional organisations. He was in demand as an international speaker at conferences and had recently returned from Mauritius where he had been acting as a special adviser to the World Health Organis-

However, he understood the balance between work and leisure. He loved the sea and bought a 35ft yacht. Fluidity. He also liked skiing, and practically every year his tall dark distinctive figure would be seen swooping down the slopes, but always making courteous way for any who crossed his path.

He leaves his widow, Eliza-beth Ann Wood, and three



Agnes Duncan, MBE. choral conductor, died on March 23 aged 97. She was born on November 10, 1899,

AGNES DUNCAN was a choral conductor of high reputation who introduced generations of young people to music. Though her life and work were concentrated in the west of Scotland, she achieved wider fame through radio and television. She was also a itself throughout Britain.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

leader of the music festivals movement which established She was born in Alexandria

in the Vale of Leven, Dunbartonshire, a cradle of the Industrial Revolution, which also possessed a celebrated children's choir. She joined it at the age of ten by claiming to be 12 — the official entry age. Since the choirmaster knew

this to be the age of her older sister, he asked if they were therefore twins. No, she replied; her sister was a few weeks older. So evident were her musical gifts that he smiled and let it pass. By the age of 20, Agnes was a soloist with the Glasgow

Orpheus Choir, founded by her mentor Sir Hugh

LEGAL NOTICES

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Roberton in 1910. Under Roberton's colourful and inspired leadership it built up a worldwide reputation. Because of his controversial views, he was known as the George Bernard Shaw of Scotland and was briefly banned by the BBC in 1942 because of his pacifism. Much later

James Hunter, former head of television at BBC Scotland, was able to confirm the outstanding quality of the Or-pheus Choir when he came upon a film, now in the national archive, of it performing in 1928. The choir was a showcase

for Duncan's rich contralto and impeccable musicianship. She was much in demand as a professional soloist. She was however, to find her vocation as a choral conductor. After an apprenticeship leading local choirs in Glasgow, she decided in 1943 to form the Scottish Junior Singers. They started with 60 girls and music bought on credit.

Within a few years they were 300-strong and the leading junior choir in Britain, sweeping the board at the Llangollen Eisteddfod, receiving a standing ovation at the Festival Hall in London, and becoming the first junior choir to appear at the Edinburgh Festival. Sell-out concerts were given in the old St Andrew's Hall in Glasgow, much prized for its acoustics, but destroyed by fire in 1962.

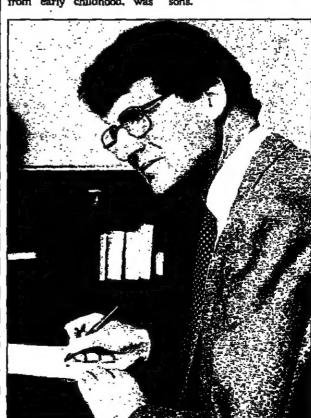
The singers made many proadcasts on both radio and relevision, including a memorable appearance with Burl ives on In Town Tonight. They achieved a unique double when, in 1959 and 1961, they won both the youth and children's classes in the international radio singing competi-tion, Let The People Sing.

Kathleen Ferrier and Isobel Baillie were among the artists who praised the choir's purity of sound, clarity of diction and high standards of musicianship. Sir Hugh Roberton himself paid generous tribute to Agnes Duncan's skill as a conductor: "She knew the choral game upside down and never missed a move." In 1967 Duncan was ap-

pointed MBE in recognition of her services to music. Although she retired from conducting, she continued to adjudicate at festivals and competitions. She served as honorary president of the annual Glasgow Music Festival and in 1992, was invited to St James's Palace to make a presentation to the Queen on behalf of the British Music Festivals Association. It was a fitting choice: she was the association's oldest member and by now had been a member of the festival move-

ment for 80 years. She said that a choral conductor required, apart from unerring musicianship, a strong personality, a sense of humour, an ability to impose discipline without regimentation and a love of people. Her pre-concert pep talks were inspirational and her advice was pithy: "Never sing louder than lovely," she would say.

She was predeceased by her husband Mathew Nisbet and is survived by her daughter.



#### M.P. FOUND SHOT DEAD

MR EDWARD MARJORIBANKS Mr Edward Marjoribanks, MP, for Eastbourne, who was 32 years of age, was found shot dead on Saturday night in the billiard room at the residence of his stepfather, Lord Hailsham, at Carter's Corner Place. Hailsham, Sussex, where he was spending

Mr Marjoribanks was found by Lord Hailsham lying partly across a chair with a gunshot wound in his chest. Near the body was a double-barrelled sporting gun. Adjoi ing the billiard room is a small gun room, and marks on the floor and walls indicate that Mr. Marjoribanks was standing in the gun-room when the gun was fired. It is believed that he fell to the floor, but staggered or crawled through the open doorway into the billiard room and collapsed across the chair. Only one

harrel of the gun had been discharged.

Mr. John Slater, chairman of the Eastbourne Conservative Association, stated on
Saturday night that he saw Mr. Marjoribanks on Thursday. He said:—"He was very ill. He was in bed at his residence in Victoriasquare, but he had a long chat to me about his work. He had been over-taxing his energies with his political and literary and legal

#### ON THIS DAY

April 4, 1932 经是国际国际

Edward Marjoribanks, MP, by his person-ality and his intellectual gifts, had already made his mark in public life and great things were predicted for him. The East Sussex recorded a verdict of "suicide while not of sound mind".

activities. He was working at great pressure on his life of Lord Carson. I was very worried about him, because he complained that he had not had a good night's sleep for many days. After I had seen him he came down to Hailsham for a rest."

An inquest will be held at 2.30 this afternoon at Lord Hailsham's house. The funeral will be at Hurstmonceux tomorrow at noon, and there will be a service at

Eastbourne at the same hour. Sir John Simon paid the following tribute to Mr. Marjoribanks: "This sudden end to a career of so much brilliance and promise

touches all his friends most deeply. I have known Edward Marioribanks ever since he was an undergraduate, and took the liveliest interest in his progress in public life. Had he lived he would have attained a high place, for he combined courage and sincerity with charm of manner in a way which marked him out for great things."

The death of Mr. Marjoribanks creates a

vacancy in the Parliamentary representation of the Eastbourne Division, for which he had sat since 1929. The figures at the last election

E. Marjoribanks (U) A. J. Marshall (Lab)

3,379 Unionist majority 25.861

THE PLIGHT OF CYPRUS FROM OUR NICOSIA CORRESPONDENT

Cyprus has had no rain since the slight fall mentioned in The Times of February 29, and the position is again critical. The peasants are without food or money, and many families are starving. The barley crop failed completely: only a miracle can now save the wheat; animals normally worth £45 and £50 are being sold for £5; thousands of sheep and lambs have died from starvation; trade is at a standstill; there are large numbers of unemployed; and the price of straw— the only available food for animals — has risen

# PERSONAL COLUMN

IN NEED **EMBASSY FLIGHT** FARESAVERS CENTRE LAS FALMAS (69 CYPRUS 119 LAS FALMAS (69 CYPRUS 119 LANZARDTE (69 ITALY £89 BALEARICS (59 CARUBEAN £189 NAMES PURITY 01273 700737 01476 592095 AIRLINK LEGAL NOTICES *Jet*world MONUMENT TRAVEL TISA CARMEENI AUSTRALIA S.AFRICA BANGKOK Liquidates HEREBY 01476 404747 0171-713-7770 Retail agent for ATCL holders AETA W0514 FLIGHTSEATSCAPITAL FLIGHTS ETLINE IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOL VENCY ACT 1984 C169 C129 C169 C229 0171 209 4000. 0171 360 1111 LEGAL, PUBLIC, **COMPANY &** ANNOUNCEMENTS **PARLIAMENTARY** 

#### **CHILDREN ON DIALYSIS**

need holidays, so do their families. Before planning your own holidays this year, please spare more than a thought for those children who without your help will never get away at all. Donations urgently needed by The British Kidney Patient

Association. Bordon, Hants, GU35 9JZ. Royd Charty No. 270288



A LEGACY MEANS A LOT TO THE LIMBLESS Help on help the limbless.

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NOTICES

are subject to confirmation and should be rec by 2.30pm two days prior to tascraion.

# THE TIMES TODAY

#### NEWS ....

#### Blair places his hopes on caution

■ Tony Blair set his sights on two terms of office as he offered Britain a fresh start and invited the country to judge his performance in government severely.

Labour would "blow its place in history" if it betrayed the trust of the British people at the general election and afterwards, he said when he unveiled the Labour Party's manifesto...

#### Labour backtracks on hunting

■ The Labour Party has backed away from its long-standing commitment to give parliamentary time to legislation banning fox-hunting. A compromise reached by party leaders means one of the countryside's oldest pursuits will be able to continue for some time to come ..... . Page 1

Election 97, pages 7-15. Labour manifesto, pages 35-38

#### Motorway bombs

Two bombs were found under the M6 near Birmingham as the IRA brought chaos to the busiest section of road in Europe ..... Page 1

#### Road rage

A professor has concluded that incidents in which drivers atracked each other over traffic misdemeanours were more likely to involve the middle classes than any other violent crime..... Page 1

#### Strike over gun boys

Teachers were considering industrial action after their school was ordered to take back two boys caught with an air pistol and ammunition ....

#### Hate campaign

A mother of five was in jail after being convicted of waging a hate campaign against a former council official who made remarks about her family on a television programme. ...Page 2

#### £750m bank thief

Abbas Gokal, the shipping mogul convicted of stealing £750 million from customers of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International, spent the money on a lavish lifestyle .... ...Page 3

#### Tunnel safety

Eurotunnel agreed to introduce new procedures including smokehoods for freight passengers. after admitting that there had been "delays" in tackling the Channel Tunnel fire...... Page 4

#### Fox hoax

A scheme to compensate hill farmers for lambs killed by foxes has been abandoned after hoax calls sent animal welfare workers driving thousands of miles to bogus addresses.....

#### TV violence

Television shows such as Blind Date and Gladiators pander to a public desire for real, rather than fictional, sex and violence, said a ... Page 6 criminologist ...

#### Clinton cash crisis

Hundreds of pages of confidential White House documents reveal that President Clinton was so obsessed with the need to raise cash to campaign for re-election that he buried himself in the trivia of fundraising...... Page 16 Arafat fund inquiry

Israel's transfer of almost £100 million in tax revenue to a secret bank account under the control of Yassir Arafat, is being investigat-

#### ed by the IMF\_\_\_ ..... Page 16 Kohl fights on

Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, has announced that he intends to stand for re-election next year after months of speculation that he was suffering from failing ... Page 17

#### Medieval Russia

Pagan superstitions and medieval notions of justice still hold sway among many of Russia's peasants

#### On the trail of Shelley's passion

■ Devon hoteliers are locked in dispute over which inn played host to Percy Shelley and Harriet Westbrook on their honeymoon in 1812. Both the Rising Sun and Shelley's Cottage Hotel claim that the poet began his brief marriage to the 16-year-old Harriet in their rooms. Both, it appears, are wrong; Shelley honeymooned 600 miles away, in Edinburgh...



Tony Blair signs copies of the Labour manifesto for eager shoppers in a west London shopping centre yesterday. Page !

Modern scouts: British Aerospace and Lockheed Martin of America joined forces to compete for the \$5 billion contract for battlefield reconnaissance vehicles, described as the modern equivalent of the Cavalry's Indian scout \_\_\_\_\_Page 25

Job losses: United Assurance is planning to shed 2,200 jobs, more than a third of its workforce, in the wake of its £1.4 billion merger with Refuge Assurance..... .....Page 25

More leisure: Rank Group is to spend £1.5 billion over the next five year, creating around 7,500 jobs, as it builds up its British leisure ...Page 25

Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 22 to 4214.6. Sterling fell to 98.3 after falls from \$1.6447 to \$1.6415 and DM2.7475 to DM2.7387.... Page 28

#### Racing: Master Oats, the 1995 Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, will run in the Grand National on Saturday, carrying the top weight of

SPORT

list lolb, over a stone more than any other horse..... Football: Poland's draw against Italy has left England in control of their own destiny in attempting to

qualify for the World Cup finals in

France next year ..... .... Page 48 Tennis: Briatin's resurgence faces a stern test as a team denuded of its top players, Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski, takes on Zimbabwe in the Davis Cup...... Page 48 Cricket: Tim Lamb, the chief executive of the England and Wales Cricket Board, hit back at criti-

cisms by the editor of Wisden in the

#### ARTS

Girls' stuff: Luscious Jackson are the sound of New York in all its cross-cultural glory. Caitlin Moran talks to the four girls in the band about being honest...... Page 32

Bovs' own: Supergrass are back. and giving the fans a bit of a slap around the face with a heavyweight new sound. With the jokers in the Britpop pack.

Street cred; Last summer 130 residents of a multiracial Birmingham housing estate were persuaded to perform Macbeth for a television documentary. How did they like ... Page 34

Big Ben: Ben Elton has come far as a dramatist since his Gasping and Poor Cow, says Benedict Nightingale, who reviews his stimulating play, Popcorn...

#### TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

#### MAGAZINE

going through heli

Peter Howson: the war artist who is trying to make peace after

■ WEEKEND Business deals on the 19th hole are old hat. But now female wheeler dealers are teeing off

#### FEATURES

Neighbours: How will the people who live in the same London street as the Labour leader Tony Blair and his family vote in the general election? Julian Kossoff tries to find

Valurie Grove: "There is a lot of snobbery in acting; and being called Rupert Graves doesn't hurt," says the star of Hurlyburly at the Old Vic. Page 19

#### EDUCATION

Saving fine schools: Labour must remember Diversity and Excellence and not be tempted to abolish the grant-maintained system, says Bob Balchin ...... .... Page 39

thal reports on an education pack for schools that could produce the next generation of British Oscar

Coming champions: Daniel Rosen-

Why boys fail: Research suggests that the gender gap is widening because of the way reading skills are taught early on ...... Page 40

#### THE PAPERS

Despite President Yeltsin's announcement of a qualitatively different stage in the process of integrating Russia and Belarus, it is hard to summon up much enthusiasm for the "union" accord between the two countries that was signed on Wednesday - Moscow Times

#### TYLISTINGS

Preview: A Manchester hotel is the site for a new period drama. The Grand (ITV, 9pm). Review: Matthew Bond on Channel 5's flamboy-... Page 47

#### OPHON

#### Labour's day

It is understandable that Mr Blair should be cautious about putting down concrete proposals which will create some financial losers. But he is far ahead in the polls; he ought to feel safe ......Page 21

#### Champion of EMU

The decision by Helmut Kohl to stand again as Chancellor of Germany closes off one of the easiest escape routes for British policy towards Europe - the possibility that Germany would lose interest in a single currency .......... Page 21

#### in the blood

Hereditary peers may be an endangered species if Labour is elected. The hereditary Member of Parliament stands ready and willing to take their place \_\_\_\_ ......Page 21

#### COLUMNS

#### **MATTHEW PARRIS**

Consciously in some cases, unconsciously in others, nobody is looking for a stick with which to beat the Labour Party, though plenty of sticks lie around us. Are we in the media scared of ourselves? Are we ashamed of our power, embarrassed by influence?...... Page 20

#### TESSA BLACKSTONE

The Government cannot complain if the voters do not give it credit. No one can recall Major. Clarke and Heseltine campaigning in 1992, in the midst of recession, on the slogan "it's all our fault"...... Page 20 LYNNE TRUSS

Callous partisanship is clearly what football is all about, which is why fans are so frightening. You can measure your fanaticism by

the extent to which the opposing side can suffer injury and ignominy without you caring ..... Page 46

#### OBITUARIES U. Alexis Johnson, US diplomat;

Dr Anthony Hopkins, of the Royal College of Physicians: Agnes Duncan, choral conductor ...... Page 23

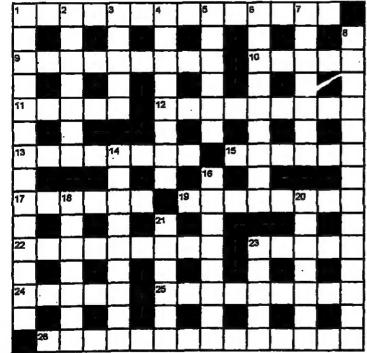
LETTERS

Election and race; railways; pat-

\*\*\* NOON TODAY

ients's rights; Papua New Guinea; public theatres and private pockets: London Aquarium ......Page 21

#### THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,445



**ACROSS** 

- I Noble's song performed in church for some bishops (5,9).
- 9 Sort of sketch it hurts to put under the hammer (9). 10 Disturbance stopped early by
- copper, an unusual type (5). If It could be hard to trim (5). 12 Marsupial's surprised expression
- when caught by robber (9). 13 Steps taken to honour our star (3-
- 15 Lose courage, on the carpet (6). 17 Tool to get rid of what's frozen round front of vehicle (6).
- 19 Crustacean raw, without salt (8). 22 Do Russian reforms show organsations unable to adapt? (9). 23 Wipe the floor with flash young
- Solution to Puzzle No 20,444

boxer, perhaps (3.2).

E

- 24 Agreed pronouncement on the radio (5). reaching high point (9).
- 26 Her lover was booked and taken to court (4, 10). 1 Open a mobile cafe and embar
- rass one's friends? (3,3,4,4). 2 Suddenly attack with bullet to leg 3 Poor bears rattled by intimidat-
- ing person (5). 4 Contribute to defence that's thrown out again by recorder (S).
- 5 Drawing a line with this decision 6 Direction artist follows, we hear, in general (9).
- planes? (7). 8 Port and non-alcoholic drink politicians linked in tax protest
- (6,3,5)14 Inessential equipment for criminal's sidekick (9).
- 16 Composer adding note to sacred music - clear? (8). 18 House containing a new orchid
- 20 Topical changes in American political situation (7). 21 Home erected in great European
- city (6). 23 E.g. Western manoeuvre to cap-
- ture island (5).

#### FORECAST

☐ General: most of England and Wales should be dry with bright or sunny spells, especially in the mom-ing. Northern England will become ing. Northern England was become cloudy during the morning, with some rain in the afternoon and evening. Any showers in eastern Scotland will soon die out. Thickening cloud will spread rain across Northern Ireland during the morning and all of Scotland in the

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the morning and all of Scotland in the afternoon. Over the higher ground of Scotland, there will be a period of sleet and snow, windy in places.

I London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, Channel Isles: dry with bright or sunny spells, becoming cloudy in evening. Winds northwesterly, moderate, turning westerly later May 13C (555) northwesterly, moderate, westerly later. Max 13C (55F). ☐ E Midiands, W Midiands, SW England, S Wales, N Wales: mainly dry and bright, sunshine at first Cloudy later. Winds northwesterly

light to moderate, swinging west to

Southwesterly. Max 12C (54F).

If England, NW England, Lake District, tale of Man, Central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh &

**Dundee, Moray Firth:** dry with bright or sunny spells at lirst. Becoming cloudy, rain in alternoon and evening. Winds west to northwesterly, light, swinging west to southwesterly, fresh. Max 11C (52F).

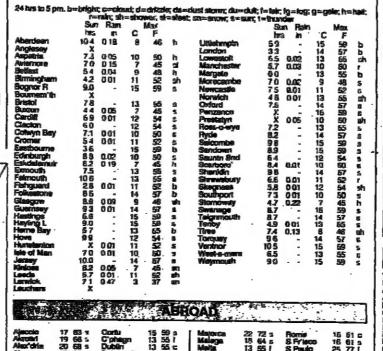
Aberdeen, Orkney, Shetland: sunny spells and showers at first, ng cloudy later with rain in evening. Winds northwesterly, fresh to

evening. Winds northwesterly, mesh to strong, swinging southeasterly later. Max 8C (46F).

SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland: dry at first, cloud thickening with outbreaks of rain spreading from west in morning Winds light and variable, becoming

southerly, fresh to strong, later south westerly. Max 11C (52F). Central Highlands, NE Scot-land: dry with bright or sunny spells at first. Becoming cloudy with outbreaks of rain; sleet or snow on high ground Winds west to northwesterly, light, swinging west to southwesterly, increasing to fresh. Max 9C (48F). Outlook: cloud and rain in North,

#### AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY



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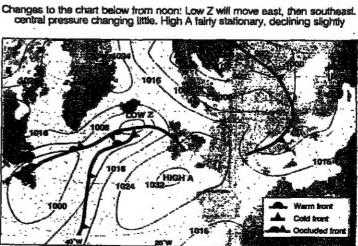
# CALM

Sunny Cloudy Drizzle Overcas Rain Sunny showers

Sunny

Sleet and sunny showers Lightning ... Temperatur (Celsius) Wind speed

conditions





HOURS OF DARKNESS

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